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VOL. VIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 123.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1848.

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ECCLIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

TAKE CARE OF THE BABY!

READER! didst ever venture upon an excursion of pleasure when a baby formed one of the party? If so, your own experience may instruct you, how very effectually one's plans of enjoyment may be curtailed by the presence of one such innocent incumbrance. It is only consistent that the folly which will consent to the abduction of babies from their appropriate sphere, should be punished by discovering that the infant becomes thenceforth the pivot upon which all arrangements must needs turn. "For goodness' sake, take care of the baby," limits your purposes on every side. You would have had a pleasant sail, to which all the elements have conspired to invite you—but then—the baby. Tea under yon branching elm would have been marvellously fresh and agreeable—but evening air is damp, and you must remember the baby. Glad to make the most of your day's absence from the drudgery of desk or counter, you would fain lengthen out your jaunt, and trust to the kind offices of the moon to light your little party home—but all such wishes are checked by one thought of the baby. You must stop short here, because of the baby. You must not attempt to go there because of the baby. This road will shake it—that voice will wake it. Baby, baby, baby—all your truant thoughts are summoned back momentarily to baby. You are not, perhaps, churlish—you flatter yourself that your heart is as tender as that of most others—but this incessant limitation of your projects by the presence of a baby, if it does not make you revert in imagination to the days of King Herod, compels you to feel that babies are beautiful to look upon when—in their right places.

Just such as this is the curtailment put upon the legislative application of all liberal principles by the existence of a State Church. The Establishment is a baby—and a thumping brat it is—one that ought to have been weaned long ago. So it happens, however, that the Legislature can never move on in the direction of freedom, without finding itself hampered by restrictions imposed upon it by the claims of the Church. A statesman proclaims a right noble principle as the basis of his policy, and society begins to rejoice in the prospect of rapid progress. Hope, however, sickens and faints, as soon as it becomes apparent that the Church is by no means to be left behind. Cæsar with a Church Establishment in his arms cannot lead us on either fast or far. The cry is still, "For goodness' sake take care of the baby." So up gets one senator to protest against such and such a measure of justice, so long at least as we have an Established Church. Here, charity must be fenced about with a *chevaux-de-frise* of solemn declarations—there, wisdom must be fettered with embarrassing provisos—simply, because the Church must be cared for. "The Church is in danger," "The Church is in danger," is screamed out at every turn of the road, or indignantly put forward as a bar to every reforming project—until at length, society, if closely watched, may be overheard to mutter between

its teeth, with heartsick impatience, "Ah! would it were!"

These reflections have been forced upon us by the treatment to which the bill for the removal of Jewish Disabilities has been subjected in the House of Commons. Defaced as that measure is by a declaration intended unduly to limit the rights and functions of a British legislator, it is still considered by not a few members to trench too far upon the exclusive privileges of the Church. Mr. Goring wishes the House to declare its opinion "that so long at least as the House of Commons exercises the authority which it at present does exercise over the Established Church, no Jew ought to possess the franchise, much less to be allowed to sit in this House." Mr. Chisholm Anstey, regarding the rights of the Jew as established by a foregone conclusion, aims to transfer the authority of Parliament, in ecclesiastical matters, to the Church in convocation. Both are right and both are wrong. It is a flagrant anomaly that Dissenters, Jews, and even infidels, should take part in making laws for a church whose doctrines or discipline they openly repudiate. It is, on the other hand, a palpable injustice to curtail men's civil rights, lest a certain institution should be placed in peril. Whilst the Church derives its maintenance from national resources, it must needs be subject to parliamentary control. Whilst such control is exercised, it is unfair to exclude any representative from taking his full part in the responsibility. The real truth is—and it is wonderful that our statesmen either do not, or will not, recognise it—that the Church is as much out of place in the arms of Parliament, as is a baby in an excursion of pleasure. Once remove it from its proper basis of willingness, and consequent independence, and, thenceforth, it becomes necessary to wink at numberless anomalies, and to interfere on every hand with the just development of unquestionable rights. The application of all sound principles is checked by the cry, "For goodness' sake, take care of the baby."

Now, we protest against being placed in a position, by an original legislative mistake, which imposes upon us the necessity of looking cautiously round all great questions of justice, in order to ascertain before we decide upon the entertainment of them, how the Established Church will be affected. Is it, or is it not reasonable, we ask, that men should without distinction share in the framing of those laws under which they live? Is it, or is it not, fitting to tie up the hands of the chosen representatives of the people in regard to such and such matters of indisputable national interest? Is it, or is it not, seemly to put an institution maintained at the public cost upon a footing of independence as to its internal and most vital arrangements? If the answer to these queries appears to menace the stability of the State-church, then, we conclude, that the State-church is necessarily in a false position. "If the baby was not here," our statesmen say, in effect, all these arrangements would be proper and safe. Well! if the arrangements are good in themselves, called for by justice, conformable to reason, may we not pertinently ask whether the baby is not out of its appropriate place.

To the settlement of this fundamental question all events are tending. Every fresh step taken in legislation, brings us into novel embarrassments, because a great baby which ought to have been left at home, is carried in our arms. Now that Jews are likely to be admitted to the House of Commons, Mr. Goring, and Mr. Anstey, are asking with distress, what is to be done with the baby. Society grows sick of this constant reference of all matters of civil and social right, to the obtrusive privileges of an ecclesiastical institution. We wait with some curiosity to see how Parliament will deal with the puzzles proposed to be submitted to them on this Jewish Disabilities Bill. Possibly, Lord John, as is his wont, will enounce, with all befitting solemnity, some glorious principle, the application of which, however, he will take care to limit by the immediate exigencies of his case. The noble lord deals with great truths as men do with candles. When he wants them, he lights them,

and goes in search of what he requires—which done, he retires again to his dormitory, blows out the light, and settles himself once more to sleep. This course, however convenient as it may be for himself, will not satisfy more scrupulous minds. There are hundreds about him who, whenever he starts upon a new career of Liberalism, will vociferate in his hearing the admonition, "For goodness' sake, take care of the baby."

THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH MOVEMENT.

CONFERENCE FOR THE MIDLAND COUNTIES, AND PUBLIC MEETING AT LEICESTER.

Leicester, March 17th.

The Executive Committee of the Anti-state-church Association are about following up their vigorous movements in other places with a series of public meetings and lectures in the midland counties. That this might be done effectively, it was thought desirable to convene a Conference of the more active friends of the Association in that locality, and Leicester naturally suggested itself as the most suitable spot for the purpose. The Conference assembled, accordingly, at eleven o'clock yesterday morning, in the lecture-room adjoining Belvoir-street Chapel. It was a most gratifying assemblage, there being about sixty gentlemen present, most of them from a considerable distance; and among them not a few of those who were met together, four years ago, to take preliminary steps for the formation of the Association. The names would occupy a considerable space, but some of them will appear in the outline of the proceedings. As the meeting was of a business kind, and much of the time was occupied in conversation, I cannot, of course, furnish any detailed account; but what follows will give an idea of the character of the proceedings, which were marked throughout by great earnestness, energy, and good feeling. I should add, that the Rev. J. H. Hinton and Mr. J. Carvell Williams, the Secretary of the Association, came down from London as a deputation from the Executive.

JOSEPH CHIFFS, Esq., was voted to the chair; and after some brief remarks, called upon the Secretary to state the objects for which the Conference had been convened.

The SECRETARY referred to the plans of the committee as partly developed in their recent movements. They had broken up much new ground, and hoped soon to extend their operations over the whole country. It was wished to hold public meetings, and to deliver lectures in the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Northampton and Leicester, as had already been done elsewhere. That, however, was not of itself sufficient. To render the movement effective there must be an organization in the form of a local committee in all the towns, and registrars should be appointed in the villages. Every town should have its public meeting, at least once a year, and many of them twice, and lectures should also be delivered monthly. Then there was the circulation of tracts, and other measures for advancing their object. Now, it was clear that no body of men in London could do this unassisted [hear, hear]. The zeal and ability of all their friends must be enlisted in the cause. In the Midland Counties they were a numerous body, and having already done so much to commence the movement, they might confidently be looked to for help in carrying it on [cheers]. He then referred to the rules framed for the guidance of the local committee, which, at the request of the meeting, were read *in extenso*.

Rev. J. GAWTHORNE, of Derby, then moved the following resolution:—

That, in the judgment of this Conference, it is essential to the successful working of the Anti-state-church Association that there should be such an effective organization in every district of the country as will enlist and give direction to the energies of all its friends; and it therefore earnestly recommends that as early as practicable local committees should be established throughout the Midland Counties.

In the course of his remarks the venerable speaker expressed the deep interest which he felt in the Association, and said that he was thankful to God for what had already been effected. No one who had watched its proceedings in a dispassionate spirit would deny that it had acted with prudence and discretion. It had increased in strength, and would continue to do so in spite of every obstacle. He approved of the plan proposed, as calculated greatly to promote its success [cheers].

Rev. J. SIBREE, of Coventry, seconded the resolution with great cordiality.

Rev. J. H. HINTON followed with some remarks in its support. He had much gratification in being present at a Conference held at the birthplace of the Anti-state-church Association. The principles of the Association were of the utmost moment, but unless there were efficient local committees these principles could never be carried out effectively. It would be unnecessary to enlarge upon the recommendation of the resolution, but it would be as well to state that the Executive Committee were anxious as much as possible to avoid every thing that might be illegal. It was, indeed, almost impossible to form any association without infringing, to some extent, on some obsolete statute or another; still it was desirable to avoid that as much as possible. It was well known that the Anti-corn-law League was pronounced illegal, and it was said that Sir R. Peel contemplated, but a short time before his conversion to its principles, measures for suppressing it, and that when it was mentioned to the attorney-general, Sir W. Follett, he said if it was to be done, the Premier must get another attorney-general to conduct the prosecution. Associations of this kind were therefore more dependent upon public feeling for security than the law. As local and separate associations, corresponding with a central one, were, however, in direct opposition to the statutes relating to such subjects, it had been deemed politic to have local committees, connected with, and acting in unison with, the executive committee; in fact, being a part of the same.

Rev. J. GORDON, of Coventry, doubted the wisdom of forming local committees rather than associations.

Mr. HINTON adverted to the circumstance that no correspondence could take place between the local associations and the executive committee, nor could they contribute anything to the funds.

Mr. SIBREE pointed to some of the rules which appeared to be arbitrary. Why, for instance, should the local committees be forbidden to issue publications without the sanction of the executive?

The SECRETARY submitted, that as everything was to be done in the name of the association, it was absolutely necessary that they should have some check on the local committees. He also pointed out the indications which the rules contained of the desire of the committee to obviate all difficulties; and he could assure the Conference of their determination to interpret the laws at all times in a liberal spirit [cheers].

Mr. WINKS was glad that gentlemen had found, in the difficulties which surrounded this question, how fettered they still were by unjust laws [hear, hear].

Rev. J. SMEDMORE reposed the greatest confidence in the gentlemen on the committee in London, and it was not to be supposed but that they were guided in their plans by the best legal advice. He did not, however, see any cause for them to be frightened, when a Prime Minister had said that he dared to go beyond the law.

Rev. J. P. MURSELL, Rev. J. POILE, of Derby, and several other gentlemen, took part in the conversation, in the course of which, many questions were put and answered. The impression appeared to be entirely in favour of the recommendations of the committee, and the resolution was finally put and unanimously adopted.

J. D. PAUL, Esq. moved as follows:—

That with a view to the carrying out of such design, as well as to assist the executive committee in the execution of their present plans, arrangements be forthwith made for the holding of public meetings in the most eligible towns in the counties already named, as well as for the delivery of lectures and the adoption of other measures calculated to increase the efficiency of the association.

He said that he was most happy in taking that opportunity of expressing his entire satisfaction with the association, and his hearty concurrence in its principles. They were worthy of being universally diffused.

The motion having been seconded,

Mr. BEDFORD, of Northampton, said that he was glad to hear that arrangements were to be made for lectures in the villages. The tracts had already diffused their principles to some extent, but the lectures would excite greater interest; and, although the attendance might at first be but small, he had no doubt that it would continue to increase as the subject was better understood.

Rev. J. J. BROWN, of Northampton, said that the lectures had worked well in Northamptonshire, where, on each occasion, a larger audience was assembled.

The SECRETARY, in reply to some remarks, said, that recent experience had proved many of their fears to have been groundless. During the winter several meetings had been held in small towns and in villages where nothing had previously been done, and the crowded audiences had astonished as well as encouraged their less sanguine friends. While referring to the subject of meetings, he would suggest the desirableness of holding them in public buildings rather than in chapels. This would secure the attendance of many, particularly Churchmen, who would not enter a chapel, and the meetings were more likely to be of an animated character. He begged also to impress upon the Conference the absolute necessity of securing a greater amount of assistance from the laity at the meetings, and indeed generally. Many entertained the suspicion that as the movement was chiefly sustained by ministers, it was a question which interested them rather than the people at large. Now, though it was primarily a religious question, yet it had important political and social bearings, and they would be better enabled to enlist public opinion in their favour if they availed themselves of the talent, business tact,

and energy to be found among the laity [hear, hear].

Rev. H. TOLLER, of Harborough, said, that however it might be in the towns, he thought that in many of the smaller places a better meeting could be got in a chapel than elsewhere, and that the reverential feeling which it produced was beneficial rather than otherwise. He suggested that lectures should precede and pave the way for public meetings.

Rev. S. HORWOOD, of Lutterworth, thought that as the ministers in some places were unwilling to invite deputations, it would be better for the committee to take an independent course, and go into any town or place on their own responsibility. This would relieve individuals from much difficulty; for there were many who, though they might decline the responsibility of inviting a deputation, would receive them if they were sent unasked [hear, hear].

Rev. J. P. MURSELL thought that it should be distinctly understood that the Committee sent their deputations, not to a few individuals, but to the inhabitants of a place generally. They had an important duty to discharge, which was to enlighten the public mind throughout the whole country, and they should push on boldly amidst obstacles and opposition of whatever kind [loud cheers].

Rev. W. ROBINSON, of Kettering, wished to know whether a deputation from London would attend the proposed meetings; urging it as absolutely necessary.

The SECRETARY said that he hoped their friends in the Midland Counties would not press hardly on the Executive Committee. It must be recollected that they had the whole country before them, and therefore needed help. He thought that as they proposed holding a larger number of meetings in that locality than they had done elsewhere, one gentleman from London would be sufficient if he were joined by some one from a neighbouring county [hear].

The motion having been carried, a number of suggestions were offered by Mr. Edwards, of Nottingham; Mr. Miall, of Ullesthorpe; Mr. Poile, of Derby; and several others, as to the places at which meetings should be held. It was at length resolved to appoint a committee, consisting of gentlemen from each county, for the purpose of selecting the places, and making other arrangements.

Mr. MURSELL said, that before the meeting was dissolved he thought it right, on his own responsibility, to submit a resolution respecting the *Nonconformist* newspaper, which, considering that the gentleman who edited it was once resident in Leicester, and left his position there to assume the advocacy of the great principles of the Association in a wider sphere—would be deemed but appropriate on the present occasion. The resolution will be found elsewhere.

Rev. J. SIBREE felt it an honour to second the resolution. It was true that there were other papers advocating the principles of Nonconformity, that had come up to the *Nonconformist*, but they should not forget that the *Nonconformist* was the great leader, and deserved all honour [hear, hear].

Rev. J. POILE, of Derby, in supporting the resolution, said that he knew that Churchmen regarded the *Nonconformist* with the greatest alarm, and that some of them had been circulating a report that it was sinking, and that its friends were making efforts to keep it on its legs. This was not the true state of the case. The *Nonconformist* was rising, and it should be made known that it was so [loud cheers].

Mr. MURSELL confirmed Mr. Poile's remarks, and observed that the *Nonconformist* never stood in so favourable and promising a position as now [applause].

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the resolution, expressed his entire concurrence in it. It was passed unanimously.

The Conference was then dissolved.

The Committee appointed at the Conference yesterday has been sitting the greater part of the day. The result of its deliberations will, I understand, be the holding of public meetings, and the delivery of lectures, in probably as many as fifty places in the Midland Counties.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The proceedings of the day closed by a public meeting in the New Hall, and it would be difficult to give an adequate idea of the extraordinary excitement which prevailed. It was a wet evening, but long before the doors were opened, a crowd had assembled outside, and some time previous to the entrance of the Chairman and speakers the place was crammed to excess, while numbers were struggling for entrance at the doors, and were at length obliged to abandon all hope of effecting an entrance. About a third of the place was occupied by ladies, for whom seats were reserved; and on the platform, which was most inconveniently crowded, were most of the gentlemen who had been present at the Conference, as well as others well known in Leicester. Richard Gardner, Esq., M.P., one of the members for Leicester, was present, and was loudly cheered. There were many operatives and several Chartists; and though there was some confusion occasioned by the extreme pressure, as well as the heat of the room, and the consequent excitement, the meeting was more orderly than, from the appearance of things at the outset, was thought possible. The resolutions were all unanimously adopted. At a few minutes before seven, Joseph Cripps, Esq., was called to the chair, and commenced the proceedings. We extract the report of the speeches delivered from the *Leicester Mercury*.

Mr. CRIPPS was called to the chair, on the motion of Mr. Mursell, seconded by Mr. W. Baines, and in opening the business of the evening, said he was persuaded, from the unanimity with which that vast assembly had carried the motion, that they would support him in the discharge of the onerous and responsible duties which devolved upon him—duties for the discharge of which he should feel himself utterly incompetent, were it not for his ardent attachment to the great principle which had called them together. He could not contemplate that immense meeting without being struck with the vast progress which the question before them had made [hear]. Indeed, until lately, it could scarcely be said to be a practical question at all—that of denying the right of governments to interfere in matters of religion. The principle itself had always lain there, however, though it had been in abeyance. But it was not till lately that its advocates had assumed their present attitude; and he had no doubt there were many there who would remember that when, on the accession of the Whig Government in 1837, a memorial was sent up (he believed from Leicester), asking for the remission of church-rates, and in which there was some allusion made to this great principle, the Prime Minister, as he was somewhat accustomed to do, treated it with scorn, and almost laughed the memorialists out of Court [hear]. Perhaps the present Prime Minister would do the same if he could [hear]. But the advocates of the principle now took up higher ground. Instead of merely asking for the remission of church-rates, or the admission of Dissenters to the universities, &c., they went to the root of the matter, and sought to free religion wholly from the trammels of the State [cheers]. They had too, now, their allies in the press, or at any rate a portion of the press; they had also sent the question into Parliament—and he need not tell them that, of all dark places on the earth, that place the most needed enlightening [hear, hear]. They had their representatives there now, and among others our own borough members [cheers]. The Chairman concluded by calling upon

The Rev. J. H. HINTON to move the first resolution, which ran thus:—

That it is the deliberate conviction of this meeting—a conviction founded on Scripture and reason, as well as supported by experience—that religion should be sustained and diffused, not by the compulsory enactments of civil governments, but by the voluntary zeal of its own friends; and that all legislative interference must inevitably prove detrimental to the cause of truth, as well as hostile to human liberty.

This resolution the rev. gentleman proceeded to support, contending that religion was essentially individual and personal in its nature, and therefore should be supported by means corresponding to that nature. No act of Parliament could make a man religious: whatever he was, religious or otherwise, he would be of himself. And as no act of Parliament could make a man religious, so no act ought to force him to contribute to the support of any religion of whatever kind [hear]. All that was done for its support should be personal and voluntary; and if religion took hold of the hearts of men, it would create a sufficient amount of zeal among its adherents to provide for its proper support. Everything else that it took beyond this it stole—it took with the hand of a thief [cheers]. All State-compelled religion, therefore—and such support must be given whether the religion were good or bad—he denounced as an intolerable wrong [hear]. It was opposed both to reason and Scripture, which said, "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. . . . The Lord loveth a cheerful giver" [hear, hear]. And what said the Mosaic dispensation? Under that dispensation there were no compulsory payments for the support of religion at all, not even tithes. If there had been a place called Rathcormac in Judea, there would have been no tithe-murders committed there [hear]. Now, if the people were fond of appealing to the old dispensation, let them be contented with it [hear]; and in that we found that tithes were given, not for the support of religion, but for secular observances of a typical kind, and to a distinct class of men, who were not permitted to have any other means of support. Would our clergy be content with tithes in this way? [hear, hear.] The Mosaic dispensation left religion a matter of the heart; and so Christianity left it. The rev. gentleman then proceeded to show the prejudicial influence exercised on religion, and particularly on the clergy themselves, by degrading them into a body of State pensioners, and compelling them to veer about as the State thought fit, to change the complexion of the Government religion of the day. He likewise alluded to the French revolution of sixty years since, and the present; and observed, that whatever blunders the French might have committed, they were right in one thing—they had declared that the existence of a State church was incompatible with civil liberty; and he concluded by declaring, "In England we want this one revolution,—the separation of Church and State" [cheers].

The Rev. J. SIBREE, of Coventry, seconded the resolution. Their Chairman had remarked (he said) that this movement had gone to the root of the evil. There was some hope, then, of its success; for when the axe was laid to the root, the tree must soon fall. As an illustration of the evils arising out of the support of religion by the State, Mr. Sibree instanced the case of the late Archbishop of York. He had had for forty years a revenue of £25,000 a year—or, in that period, a million sterling—for receiving which there was no proof that he had done anything to promote literature, or Christianity, or the general interests of humanity [hear]. They only knew that he had left behind him a good cellar of the choicest wines, and that he was a good judge of horses and dogs, and so forth [hear, and laughter]. He (Mr. Sibree) would just allude to a little inci-

dent that occurred at the commencement of the meeting. The shutters yonder had prevented a great many of the people from seeing and hearing what was going forward; so they knocked, and gave the meeting no peace until the shutters were opened. And this was what the Anti-state-church Association was doing: they would knock, and knock, and knock again, until the mind of the public and the Legislature was enlightened on this question.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN then called upon

RICHARD GARDNER, Esq., M.P., to move the second resolution, which was as follows:—

That entertaining the opinion already expressed, this meeting regards the separation of the Church from the State as an object towards which the energies of every patriot and citizen should be unceasingly directed; while in the progress of public events, ecclesiastical and civil, it beholds with the deepest joy the auguries of complete and early progress.

—As soon as the applause with which he was greeted had subsided, the hon. member said he was exceedingly gratified at the kind reception they had given him; he only wished it were in his power to do something worthy of it. Unfortunately, however, "the star" to whom their chairman and the last speaker had alluded, was under a cloud [laughter]—for, during the last eight or ten days, he had been suffering from that fashionable complaint the influenza, and was not yet recovered. Indeed had the subject for which they were met to-night been one of less interest to him, he should have declined being present on the occasion. He had therefore to ask their forbearance. They must not attribute any deficiencies in warmth or energy to want of interest in the question on his part, but to physical inability. He felt, however, that he had not much to fear from the inhabitants of this town—a town which he believed might be truly called the Metropolis of Nonconformity; and he was here rather to receive than give instruction. He stood there, however, in conformity with one of the pledges he gave upon the hustings, and which, so far as he could help, should never be falsified [cheers]. He stood there, moreover, to declare that the existence of an Established Church in connexion with the State was false in principle, bad in practice, opposed to the best interests of society, and also to the will and design of Providence [cheers]. The existence of the State Church was an index to our political enlightenment—a drag upon our progress—and one of the latest existing bequests we have received from past and barbarous times. It was opposed to the spirit of the present times, and no one would think of building up such an anomalous fabric, if society had to be instructed anew [cheers]. It was maintained partly because it was old, and partly because it was profitable [hear, hear],—and was connected in the minds of Englishmen with material advantages which appealed at once to our senses. It made its appearance at our dinner-parties—and particularly in some circles—in company with "a jolly full bottle;" and was mixed up, in the mind of merchants on 'Change, with the state of the three per cents [laughter]. Indeed, he had no doubt that there were many very respectable persons even in this town who believed that the grass would cease to grow and the sun to shine, and that all the sweet influences of nature would be paralyzed and disturbed throughout by such irreligious and ill-disposed persons as he and the meeting, if the alliance between Church and State should be dissolved, and the bishops should be dismissed to their pastoral pursuits—for which, in secret, their hearts doubtless yearned [hear, and laughter]. It was the object of that meeting to dispel such illusions, and come to the rescue of those fond souls who still lingered in erastian bondage—to separate the real from the unreal—and to teach them to distinguish between the law of God and the decree of man [hear]. He rejoiced in the atmosphere of such meetings as these; they were the life-blood of the popular cause—the safeguards of the country. It was such meetings as this as made it well-nigh impossible that such meetings as we had lately witnessed in another country could ever happen in this; and while that young and illustrious republic had his best wishes—his heartiest sympathies for its success—he had felt some little doubts when he thought of the sad and sanguinary manner in which that revolution had been accomplished. He nowhere found in the history of France that gradual and patient progress towards liberty which we made in this country—slowly, often too slowly, indeed—but securing it step by step mainly through the influences of meetings such as this [cheers]. The hon. member then referred to the history of all State-churches, from the time of the first Christian Roman emperor, to show that, in the words of John Milton, the "State has overlaid the Church by too much nursing"—also the evil effects of this upon the priesthood—the disappointment of men's hopes as to the result of the Reformation, since one usurpation was only exchanged for another, and with this aggravation, that the practices of the new church were entirely opposed to her principles and professions. If he understood the principle of Protestantism aright, it was a protest against the principle and practices of the Church of Rome, the assertion of the right of private judgment [hear]. Now that right was fatal to a church establishment, because, if no individual had a right to over-ride his neighbour, and force upon him his peculiar views, it was perfectly clear that no body of men, no governments—whether kings, nobles, or the people themselves—had any right to do so either [hear, hear]. The hon. member then disclaimed any hostility on theological grounds to the Church—those were matters with which this movement had nothing to do. He objected to her because of her aggressive and insolent character, in claiming—while the church of the minority—to be the national

church; and the only difference he could perceive between the Church of Rome and that of England was, that we had exchanged the Bulls of the Vatican for Acts of Parliament [hear, hear]. He himself entertained no fear as to the consequences of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations with the Court of Rome, for though it was true that the Pope had a religious as well as a secular character, our clergy were too rich and well-fed to think of going so far upon a missionary journey [laughter]. The correspondence between crowned heads being mostly carried on in French, our gracious Queen would have to address his Holiness as "*Mon frere*"—my brother!—and he to reply "*Ma sœur*"—my sister! But he (Mr. G.) did not see how our beloved Queen, considering her ecclesiastical character as head of the Church, could well refrain from addressing the Pope as "Most Reverend Brother," while the Pope must reply, "Most Reverend Sister" [cheers and laughter]. This seemed absurd enough, but what absurdity could be greater than making a civil potentate the head of the Church, the head of that whose only Master was in heaven [hear, hear]. The hon. member next exposed with a master-hand the hollowness, the hypocrisy, the tissue of fraud and lies which had characterised the recent mock "elections" of two Bishops in the Church of England—the consequence of her having sold her birth-right to the state for a mess of pottage. He next touched upon the objections to the admission of Jews into Parliament—from which he himself apprehended no danger to the commonwealth—on the ground that they were not Christians, and reminded his audience that equally strenuous objections had been made when *bond fide* Christians, who happened to be Dissenters, applied for their full share of their civil privileges. Still, he must confess that he could not coincide with those who called Sir R. Inglis and similar opponents of emancipation "biggots;" they were only "consistent Churchmen"—they believed it necessary for the well-being of the State and the green-growing of the grass—[laughter]—that the Church should be allied with it; and therefore they opposed every one of those liberalizing measures which stultified and rendered impossible the long continuance of that alliance. He then exposed the inconsistencies of the upholders of the connexion of Church and State, and again contended that the civil power ought to have no authority in matters of religion. He was opposed (he said in conclusion) to the Church of England as an aristocratic institution and an irreligious institution—because she went into the houses of poor men, and took forced payments from them in support of a denomination they did not belong to—because she enforced her payments in Ireland even with the bayonet—and because the state of that country was a danger and scandal to this country, which made him blush for his country whenever he was abroad and heard that unhappy land alluded to [hear]. For these reasons it was that he supported the resolution entrusted to him; and he would only further say that he would give every assistance in his power, whether in or out of Parliament, to every well-considered movement, however bold, for the enfranchisement of religion and the promotion of the rights of the people [cheers, which were renewed on the hon. member's resuming his seat].

The Rev. J. GAWTHORNE, of Derby, seconded the resolution, which he supported by some appropriate and humorous remarks; but we are now compelled to bring our report to a speedy conclusion. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. JOHN GORDON moved the next resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting has watched the growing strength of the British Anti-state-church Association with feelings of no ordinary gratification; and it now calls upon the inhabitants of Leicester, as well as of the Midland Counties generally, to afford to an institution, in the formation of which they themselves took so deep an interest, that increased support which will render it equal to the importance of the work for which it was established.

—This resolution the rev. gentleman enforced at some length. He afterwards expressed his sympathy with the French people in their recent revolution, and with his fellow-countrymen, particularly those he saw before him, in their sufferings and their struggles after their civil and political rights.

The Rev. J. SMEDMORE seconded the resolution, and after making a few remarks in reference to it, alluded to the presence of Mr. Gardner among them that evening—the manœuvring of the Tories, and possibly a portion of the Government, to turn him and his respected colleague out, because they were too independent—and declared, amid rapturous cheering, that, even should those manœuvres by any chance succeed, the people of Leicester, he (Mr. S.) was sure, would return both members in triumph again.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Mr. BROWN moved, and Mr. J. F. WINKS seconded, the next resolution (which was also carried) as follows:—

That the history of the Church of England, and more especially of events which have recently happened within its pale, cannot fail to convince all conscientious and thoughtful members of that Church of the unsoundness of the principles on which its connexion with the State is based, and of the necessity of dissolving that connexion, in order to the advancement of the best interests of religion.

The Rev. J. P. MURSELL then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Gardner and the deputation from London for their attendance. He also congratulated the meeting on the rapid strides great fundamental principles were making, and, in answer to numerous appeals from the lower end of the Hall to join in the Chartist movement, he declared himself a Chartist in principle, and his conviction that the attainment of their object was only a question of time: he should be glad, indeed, if the Charter could be obtained first, for then the separation of

Church and State would soon be accomplished; but he did not believe that the Charter would ever be obtained so long as there was an Established Church.—Mr. SWAIN seconded the motion.

Mr. W. BURDEN then addressed the meeting, expressing his regret that, before the meeting was called, an opportunity had not been given to the people to declare their sympathy with the French nation in their revolution.

Mr. GARDNER acknowledged the compliment paid to him, and stated (in reply to various remarks he had heard from the lower end of the room during the evening) that, so far as he was acquainted with it, the Land Plan had his approbation, but he could give no opinion as to whether it could come under the operation of the Friendly Societies' Act, until he had heard the discussion. He also stated that he had several times attended the House to vote on Mr. O'Connor's motion; but—owing to the pressure of other business—it had been put off with many other motions; and at the time he accepted the invitation to attend this meeting, he was not, and could not possibly be, aware that the motion would be on the notice-paper for that night. If it should come on, and a division take place, he (Mr. G.) should deeply regret his absence, although occasioned by his presence among his constituents [cheers].

Mr. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS acknowledged the vote for the deputation, chiefly, however, on behalf of Mr. Hinton, as his own exertions had been limited to the Conference held that morning. He could not, however, forbear expressing the pleasure he felt in attending a meeting of the Association at Leicester, because he was satisfied that, at a future day, that town would be regarded with peculiar interest, as having been the birthplace of a Hercules, whose mission it was to carry the cleansing tide of public opinion through the Augean stable of ecclesiastical corruption and oppression [cheers].

Thanks were then voted to the Chairman, and acknowledged by him; and the meeting separated.

MEETING AT LEEDS.

(Abridged from the *Leeds Times*.)

On Tuesday evening last, a meeting took place in the Music-hall, Albion-street, for the purpose of hearing an address from the Rev. John Burnet, of London, a deputation from the British Anti-state-church Association, and also to pass resolutions condemnatory of the connexion between Church and State. The chair was to have been occupied by James Richardson, Esq., the Clerk of the Peace, but urgent business requiring his attendance at York Assizes, he could not preside. Every portion of the hall was filled by the time appointed for the commencement of the proceedings; and at seven o'clock, upon the motion of the Rev. Robert Brewer, Mr. Edward Baines, jun., was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, after expressing his regret at the unavoidable absence of Mr. Richardson, than whom, he said, a more ardent, sincere, and enlightened friend of voluntary religion did not exist, read a letter from J. Sturge, Esq., regretting his inability to be present on the occasion. In the course of his subsequent remarks, the Chairman explained that they owed their present meeting to the inability of Mr. Burnet to attend the great meeting in Leeds at the fall of last year. But that which they, in October last, were disposed to regret as a misfortune, had been the means of giving them a second meeting, which otherwise they would not have had. The great question, he said, was, "Has the voluntary principle power to support and provide for the extension of religion?" In England alone, there are 10,394 Nonconformist places of worship, built and supported purely and entirely by the voluntary principle. In Wales there were 2,340, giving for England and Wales 12,734 places of worship built and maintained by voluntary efforts. That was about the number of established churches existing in England and Wales, including those erected in bygone ages by the aid of the State, those erected in modern times by the same means, and those which had been erected by private individuals and voluntary efforts [applause]. If they extended this inquiry to Scotland and Ireland, they would find that there were between fifteen and sixteen thousand churches of the Establishment in the whole of the United Kingdom; whereas, the Nonconformist places of worship, not including preaching stations, amounted to eighteen thousand. Therefore, it was clear, from the preponderance of the places of worship erected by voluntary efforts over those of the Established Church, erected by State aid and private efforts, that there was power in voluntaryism to sustain and extend religion [loud applause].

The Rev. H. GILBERT moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—

That the members and friends of the British Anti-state-church Association deem it an incumbent duty to make public the views which they entertain on the subject of the civil establishments of religion, and by every legitimate method of instruction, to point out to their countrymen the anti-social, oppressive, and unscriptural character of a system, by means of which one part of the community—and it may be a minority—assumes to itself, for its own sectarian worship, the power of ruling the conscience, of prescribing the faith, and of taxing the property of their fellow-subjects, who are as entitled to independence of judgment and of action, in all the affairs of religion, as themselves.

The Rev. JOHN HUGHES MORGAN seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation.

The Rev. ROBERT BREWER moved the next resolution, which he read, as follows:—

That, merely alluding to those striking events which are rousing even the most abject and torpid of the states of Europe to consider and assert their natural and civil rights, and compelling the most arbitrary government, however reluctant, to respect and concede them—and without committing itself to any judgment respecting the sudden and complete revolution which has just occurred in a neighbouring kingdom—this meeting cannot but hail with approbation and delight the public and explicit avowal of its Provisional Government, that "Religion

and conscience must be absolutely free, and the Church independent of the State: and would earnestly recommend the study and adoption of these enlightened views to all classes of our countrymen, and the early and impartial application of them by our rulers, as indispensable to the peace and security, the prosperity and happiness, of our land.

Mr. Brewer, in the course of a neat speech, pointed out some of the evils arising from the connexion of Church and State, stating, as a strong instance of the iniquity of a church establishment, that in Ireland there were but 800,000 members of the Established Church of that country to 600,000 Presbyterians and 6,000,000 Roman Catholics; so that they had sixty-six Dissenters ridden rough-shod over by eight Episcopalians. He then referred to the conduct of Earl Grey in forcing the Church Establishment upon the people of South Australia as a proof that the lay lords of the Church were not only gulling the people at home, but absolutely treading them down abroad [hear, hear]. It was, therefore, he contended, most necessary, at once and for ever, to get rid of that incubus, and declare that religion should be free and unfettered by the State [applause].

The Rev. JOHN BURNET, amidst loud and reiterated plaudits, came forward to second the resolution. We have not space to extract the whole of his able and humorous address, but give the concluding portion of it:—

They had two courses open to them—they must diffuse Christianity, and they must maintain it; they must bring it before their fellow-men, and illustrate it in their lives and actions [hear, hear]. Let no man be told that Christianity consisted in archbishops or bishops; in church-rates or tithes; in imprisonment or seizures of the body or goods of all recusants [hear, hear, hear]. Tell the infidel that the strong arm of power must be used to bring Christianity home to him, and he would exclaim—"No such Christianity for me." He would assuredly throw away the whole truth because it was mixed with that which never could be connected with it—error [loud cheers]. Next, the resolution informed him of a great shaking among the nations. People said what their agitation sought was a Utopia; that they were seeking for that which would cause a chaos; that they would never be able to dis sever bodies so interwoven—so knit together, that the systems which had grown up as twin-brothers since the days of Constantine, that 1,500 years of intimacy, could never be separated by such efforts as theirs. Could 1,500 years give to any system the power of moral force and great and just principles? [hear.] It never could [cheers]. What was said by their opponents now, was said of the French even but a few days ago. The people of England were told that the French nation was strong and mighty; like a strong lion it was crouching only to spring; and England must quail before it. But the mighty animal had roused itself, and turned against its keeper, who had been compelled to throw himself into the arms of the kingdom which they had been told he intended to invade; he had been driven to implore the protection of those whom he was to enslave [laughter]. Well, he came upon the peace principle, and they would not refuse to receive him [hear, hear]. The rev. gentleman then referred to the history of France and other countries, to the lives of Louis XIV., Charles X., and Louis Philippe, as illustrating the instability of things which had long been deemed immutable [hear, hear]. Church and State had been connected for fifteen hundred years; sometimes the one uppermost, sometimes the other; but the circumstance seemed to have been overlooked by the advocates for stability that the intelligence and improvement of the people had all this time been rising higher and higher, like a flood, and rushing forward, like the tide, amidst all this apparent stability [hear, hear]. Now, the best thing for the stable-minded persons to have done would have been to sail down the river of intelligence, and kept the Church and all the institutions of society in harmony with the growing intelligence and worth of the people; then would the nations and their rulers have lived together as brethren [cheers]. He rejoiced at the growing intelligence of the people, which had moved and was continuing to move those who had hitherto stood out for the stability of ancient things; and the sooner they altogether changed their opinions the better [hear, hear]. Then his resolution said that they approved of the conduct of the Provisional Government of France in declaring the entire separation of Church and State [cheers]. After pointing out the servile position of the religious sects in France under the government of Louis Philippe, which endowed all, but retained the power of putting a veto on the right to preach or even assemble together, at the whim of the Minister of the Crown, Mr. Burnet warned the Nonconformists of England against receiving any Government bribes, however speciously offered; and he exhorted them to memorialize the Queen for the dismissal of any Minister who should propose the extension of the soul-enslaving system of religious endowments, or who should, like the present Colonial Secretary, attempt to thrust an Establishment down the throats of the people [hear, hear]. If they did that, they would find their members and their ministers more attentive to their duties than they now are. Complaints might be made that they were coercing the independence of their members. Well, but they did not want independent members of Parliament—they wanted men to represent the opinions of the people [loud applause]—and if their members turned independent, the people must take the earliest opportunity of sending them on their travels [loud and continued applause]. If they acted in this way, they would be thought better of by those men who now affected to despise them; but though he spoke thus of the power of the people, he believed that the people would only wield that power so long as they wielded it with the dignity of peace and order [loud cheers]. They were safe while they were quiet; they would be lost when they rioted. They had suffered long, and only argued; they would suffer on, and still argue only; they would employ no other weapons than reason and argument; yet before those weapons the tyrant would tremble and turn pale, who, if they were riotous, would become red with rage [applause]. Let them, then, have no turbulence; but let them calmly and firmly say—"We must have the separation of Church and State; we will never be riotous, but we will be emphatic in our demands;" and if they called on him for peace, and desired and would have peace, he would just let them take it by breaking that ugly connexion between Church and State, of which he had so much ground to complain. "Let us," said Mr. Burnet, in conclusion, "see Christi-

anity standing out in its worth and its glory, having no sword but the Spirit of God; no shield but the shield of faith; no breastplate of iron or of brass, but the breastplate of Christianity; no panoply but the panoply of righteousness, love, and truth; and when Christianity thus comes out to triumph, we shall go on, conquering and to conquer, and the nations will do homage to our prowess" [loud and reiterated applause].

Mr. JOHN ANDREW moved the next resolution, and in doing so complimented the working men of Leeds in having, during the excitement of the last few weeks, condemned in such strong and forcible language, every resort to physical force for the attainment of their rights [hear, hear]. The resolution was as follows:—

The members and friends of the British Anti-state-church Association now assembled, express their gratitude to the Rev. John Burnet, for his able exposition of sacred principles, and earnestly desire the speedy accomplishment of his truly Christian mission, the entire separation of religion from all State legislation and control, fully believing that the Gospel of Christ can only, by being so freed, be effectually propagated among all nations.

Mr. GRIMSHAW very briefly seconded the resolution.

The Rev. J. BURNET pertinently replied, and concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was also carried amidst cheering.

Mr. BAINES replied; and the meeting separated about half-past nine o'clock.

BRADFORD.—BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—On Wednesday and Thursday last, notwithstanding a soaking rain, and a charge for admission of twopence and sixpence, from a thousand to fifteen hundred persons of all classes assembled at the Temperance Hall—the largest building in the town—to hear lectures from the Rev. John Burnet, of Camberwell. The first evening was devoted to show the unscriptural nature of establishments of religion, and was presided over by Titus Salt, Esq., an alderman of the borough, destined, in all probability, to be one of its future chief magistrates. One circumstance connected with this gentleman and this meeting must not go unnoticed. For two or three days a threatening notice had been placarded on the walls, addressed to "Certain Magistrates Expectant," and cautioning them against attending the Anti-state-church meeting. What influence it had in keeping other dissenting magnates away, we do not know. We hope and believe that they are made of more sterling metal; but we must do honour to the moral courage of Mr. Alderman Salt. The lecturer introduced his subject by some most appropriate advice to the vast body of working men *en blouse* then before him—urged with all the earnestness of sincerity and deep interest for their welfare, that they would avoid everything like disorder and force in seeking their rights, and behave themselves like men worthy of being entrusted with political power. These remarks were the more needed since this town can on an occasion turn out a body of labourers which, for numerical and physical strength, I am informed, is marvellous—and (judging from their orderly deportment at this meeting) for orderly and peaceable demeanor, too, even in these exciting times. The lecture was delivered in Mr. Burnet's best style, received repeated and enthusiastic approbation, and formed one continuous chain of argument so complete, that no one, though objectors were thrice summoned, as in the case of the confirmation of Dr. Hampden, had the temerity to gainsay. The following evening the hall was again crowded in every part—the rain falling heavily from six to nine o'clock. Mr. Alderman Brown presided. The subject of the lecture was—"Establishments of Religion impolitic." At the close, an opponent rose in the gallery. It was no less, and no more, than a little, neatly-dressed, modest-looking woman. Mr. Burnet, having recovered from the fright, quietly answered and disposed of the objection. A working man then rose and said that God had commanded "kings to be nursing fathers and queens nursing mothers" to the Church, and that, therefore, the lecturer was wrong in declaring that State-establishments of religion were unscriptural. He was followed by a Mr. Robson, a respectable man, who undertook to prove that tithes were made compulsory by God himself—that it was the duty of the civil magistrate to take care of the spiritual interests of the people—and lastly, that the Church of England had received the highest encomiums from Dissenters themselves. Suffice it to say, that almost every word this gentleman said was uttered first by Mr. Seeley in reply to Mr. Burnet at Cambridge, repeated by the Rev. Mr. Taylor at the discussion with Mr. Miall at Wakefield, reiterated by the curate of the parish at Pontefract, and lastly by the national schoolmaster at Stockton-on-Tees. To all this Mr. Burnet simply replied, that he had admitted on the previous evening nearly the whole that had been adduced by his opponents; but that it all proved nothing in favour of civil establishments of religion, and called upon them to show, either in the Old or the New Testament, where God had given the power to men to enforce the support of religion by the arm of the law, and he would then give up his opposition. We need scarcely say that Mr. Robson said no more. Nearly all the Dissenting ministers of the town were present on the platform—Drs. Acworth and Godwin, Mr. Walter Scott (Independent), Mr. Clowes and Mr. Dawson (Baptist), and the Wesleyan Association minister. Mr. Glyde (Independent minister) was in the body of the hall, and there were also present several members of the corporation, and many ladies. We understand that the amount paid for admission more than covered the entire expenses.—From a Correspondent.

The coats of the Irish reapers have been described as "a parcel of holes sewed together."

EDINBURGH VOLUNTARY CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

(From the Scottish Press.)

On Tuesday evening a meeting, convened by the Association for promoting Voluntary Church Principles, was held in the Synod Hall of the United Presbyterian Church, Queen-street, for the purpose of forming a new Voluntary Church Association. Among other gentlemen present we observed the Rev. Dr. Ritchie, the Rev. Messrs. Campbell, McGilchrist, Davidson, Edwards, Johnston, Nicol, Meikle, Beith, and Laing, Portobello, James Peddie, Esq., W.S., William Duncan, Esq., S.S.C., James Gray, Esq., — Drummond, Esq., Thomas Russell, Esq., Convener Copland, &c.

The Rev. J. R. Campbell was called to the chair. The Rev. Francis Johnston opened the meeting with prayer.

The CHAIRMAN stated the object of the meeting, and enforced the renewal of the Voluntary controversy, which had been for some years in abeyance. He was never himself satisfied that they should have abandoned the advocacy of the Voluntary principle, and he held they should not have been satisfied although a body, however respectable and religious, had adopted half the truth, as he believed their brethren of the Free Church had done. After referring to the zealous and energetic labours of the British Anti-state-church Association, he commended the manful spirit of the committee of the Voluntary Association in coming before their constituents on the present occasion; and then called on

Mr. HUNTER, the Secretary of the Association, to address the meeting. Mr. Hunter reviewed the proceedings of the Society since its formation, and said that as it had for some time past been doing very little, it was thought by the committee that it would be better to dissolve it altogether, and to form a new organization in its place.

A lengthened discussion ensued as to whether the society to be formed should be an independent body, or should be a local committee in connexion with the British Anti-state-church Association. The Rev. Robert Laing, Portobello, Rev. Andrew Nicol, Mr. Drummond, Mr. Thomas Russell, and Mr. John Stewart, advocated the latter view, on the ground that their objects would be more speedily and effectually gained by co-operation with such a large and powerful organization as the British Association; while the Rev. Dr. Ritchie, Mr. William Duncan, Rev. Mr. Meikle, of Beith, Mr. Musgrove, Mr. Caldwell, Convener Copland, and Mr. George Henderson, supported the formation of an independent association, conceiving that they would thus be left at greater freedom to adopt such measures as might be necessary for the advancement of the cause, that they could have greater effect on their friends throughout Scotland, and bear more especially on the peculiar features presented by the Church establishment of this country. Mr. Duncan also suggested that the proposed Association should not merely confine itself to the assertion and promotion of the Voluntary principle, but that it should endeavour to prevent any encroachment on the rights of Dissenters, both in reference to churches and schools. With the view of ascertaining the sense of the meeting with regard to the two proposals, motions were made and seconded, when the proposal to form an independent association was carried by a large majority, and the meeting resolved accordingly.

A large and influential committee was then appointed to prepare a constitution for the proposed Association, and to report at an early period to a meeting of the friends of the Voluntary principle in this city.

On the motion of Mr. James Peddie a vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Campbell for his conduct in the chair, and on the motion of Dr. Ritchie a similar compliment was paid to the gentlemen who had been instrumental in getting up the meeting. The meeting, which was numerously attended, then broke up.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN FRANCE.

(From the Christian Record.)

We perceive from *La Reformation* that a society is about to be formed in Paris under the title of The Society for the application of Christianity to the discussion of Social Questions. This society will serve as a rallying point and an organ to those who wish to labour earnestly, first to protect the principle of individuality against all the tendencies of communists or others by whom it may be menaced; secondly, to propagate and realize the principle of the separation of the Church from the State; and thirdly, to infuse into the laws and manners of the people the moral tendencies and principles of Christianity. The society will shortly publish a prospectus, together with an exhortation to unity, addressed to every friend of the Gospel. "The condition of the working classes" is the first question to be discussed at the approaching meeting. It is intended to print and circulate extensively an address to French Protestants, calling upon them to prepare, without delay, for the dissolution of the bond which unites their churches to the State. Already there is posted on the walls of Paris a large placard printed in immense characters, in the following words:—"Liberty of Worship.—It is unjust to oblige a citizen to contribute to the support of a form of worship with which he does not accord. Let the State, then, no longer support the ministers of religion, but leave to every individual the maintenance of that peculiar form of worship which he may have conscientiously adopted. The taxes would thus be considerably diminished. Let the powers that be renew their sanction of the rational principle affirmed by the constitution of the year 3:—'No one can be forced

to contribute to the expenses of any form of worship. The republic supports none. Thus will creeds be propagated by those who hold them, and no religion will possess the privilege of State support; thus the State will not be called upon to interfere in questions of religion, which have always been embarrassing, if not disastrous; thus the public treasury will effect a saving of forty millions; and thus, moreover, will every Frenchman enjoy the same amount of freedom and equality in matters of religion as he does in politics." Other important questions will in their turn claim the attention and the efforts of the society—such as popular education, prison discipline, the perfect enjoyment of religious equality in the hospitals, the army, &c., the abolition of slavery, the consideration of questions raised by the various schools of socialists, &c. &c. The society, immediately after its establishment, appointed a committee of three of its members to prepare the business of the meetings, and to carry out its decisions. The secretariat is composed of Messrs. Henry Lutteroth, Edmund De Pressensé, and Charles Clement.

"THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH LEAGUE."—We have received from several correspondents copies of an address issued by a body under the above title, and requesting information on the subject. We are sorry we are unable to satisfy their very laudable curiosity, but we suppose that the party or parties who have issued the appeal have just awoke from a mesmeric trance, and like Rip Van Winkle, are utterly oblivious of the fact that during the last four years an Anti-state-church Association—formed by one conference of delegates from all parts of the country, and confirmed by a second—has been in active operation. As no details in reference to the formation of the "League," or the names of the committee, have been given, we would caution the public against contributing towards the support of a scheme so suspicious in its appearance.

Rev. D. W. Evans, late of Airedale College, having received and accepted a most cordial and unanimous invitation from the Congregational churches at Stokesley, and Ayton, Yorkshire, entered on his stated labours on the 20th ult., with encouraging prospects of usefulness and success.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—For some days past it has been known that the chartist body in this town intended to hold a series of public meetings, to discuss the various points of their political creed, to cause their voice to be heard amid the din and confusion of transpiring events, and to make a movement towards the enfranchisement of the millions. These meetings were anticipated with considerable apprehension, and the authorities made a world of unnecessary fuss and preparation. Monday night came and the magistrates sat in solemn conclave—the police were all marshalled and armed—the dragoons at the barracks had their horses ready for mounting at a moment's warning. Many were the wistful looks and earnest enquiries—but all has passed over with the utmost quietude. The people met—they spoke—protested—demurred—determined—but all with the most perfect order and propriety, affording a most pleasing contrast to the assemblages in St. Stephen's. At the conclusion of Tuesday night's meeting a petition to the Queen was unanimously adopted, praying her Majesty to commute the sentence of the two wretched men now lying under sentence of death at the city of Durham, the victims of the execrable game laws. There is a good deal of dissatisfaction manifested here in reference to the votes and speeches of one of our representatives (Mr. T. E. Headlam) upon the income-tax. There is some talk of getting up a petition to request the honourable gentleman to resign his seat, and should this be done, it will be very numerously signed. I might have stated above that the performances at the Theatre Royal, on Monday, were suppressed, it is said, by Government. "The French Revolution" was the advertisement. Since communicating the above intelligence, a meeting has been held by a number of Mr. Headlam's supporters, for the purpose of considering that gentleman's recent votes and proceedings in Parliament. Resolutions were passed condemnatory of Mr. Headlam's votes against Lord Duncan's motion for the repeal of the window-tax—against Mr. Horsman's motion for more equal distribution of the income-tax—and also against Mr. Hume's motion for limiting it to one year. Another resolution, expressing the surprise and regret of the meeting at Mr. Headlam's absence from the division on Mr. Hume's motion for a reduction of the naval and military expenditure. What further steps may be taken is in some measure contingent upon the honourable member's reply to the above resolutions.

BANKRUPTS AND INSOLVENTS.—There has just been laid before Parliament a return of the number of commissions and fiat in bankruptcy issued in each year between 1801 and 1846, both inclusive. The maximum number was in 1826, when it reached 3,301, and the minimum in 1802, when it was estimated at 1,092.

DANGER OF PARLIAMENTARY QUOTATION.—The following anecdote is a literal fact:—In one of his speeches in the House of Commons, the Minister, to illustrate a point, quoted from *Hamlet*, "There's something rotten in the state of Denmark," which being read in the newspapers next morning by a matter of fact quidnunc, who had a considerable sum vested in Danish securities, he took the alarm, and immediately wrote to his correspondent in Stockholm to sell out and realize every shilling he had in the funds of that denounced and sinking country.—*Literary Gazette*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—On Tuesday, the 14th inst., the members of the Alnwick branch of the Anti-state-church Association met at one of their regular quarterly meetings, when a very excellent paper was read by Mr. David Bell, draper, of this town, on "The Present Aspect of the Anti-state-church Question in relation to the Movements that are agitating Society generally." After some remarks on the paper by the members present, several new members were received. The case of the *Nonconformist* paper was then introduced to the meeting. Those present that have been regular readers of it spoke in the highest praise of the able articles it always contains, and strongly urged its claims upon the attention of all the members of this Association. The result, I am happy to inform you, was, that several members at once decided henceforth to take it in. It was then moved by Mr. T. Duncan, and seconded by Mr. W. Hindmarsh, "That this meeting expresses its entire confidence in the *Nonconformist* paper, fully approving of the great principles of civil and religious liberty so ably advocated by its talented and unswerving Editor, and pledges itself to use every effort to extend its circulation." As secretary, I was requested to communicate to you the resolution, which passed unanimously, and the very strong feeling that exists here in favour of the *Nonconformist*—nay, the plain truth, the Editor. Your fellow-labourer in the glorious cause of spiritual emancipation,
GEO. RICHARDS.

Alnwick, March 16, 1848.

THE DISSENTERS IN INDIA AND THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Within the last few weeks petitions or memorials have been presented to the House of Commons respecting the present state of the law of marriage as it affects Dissenters in British India. The petitions were in the Parliamentary report represented as from some or certain Baptists at Madras; they were, however, from the ministers and missionaries of the London Missionary Society and their friends in Bengal and Madras, and from the ministers and missionaries of the Baptist Society and their adherents in Bengal. Since the presentation of the petitions, Charles Lushington, Esq., M.P. for Westminster, has asked in the House whether any thing was likely to be done in reference to this matter. C. Lewis, Esq., secretary to, or representative of, the Board of Control, is reported to have stated in reply that the whole subject of colonial marriages had been referred to the Marriage Commissioners recently appointed by Government, and that up to the year 1816 all marriages solemnized in India had been deemed valid, but at that time doubts began to prevail, and a bill was passed by which ministers of the Scotch Church were not permitted to solemnize marriages in India.

That petitions from India should be misreported, and the reply to such a question be vague, is not at all surprising. Still the principle involved in the petitions is one of deep moment to the interests of religion in India, and one that should not be lost sight of.

I will endeavour to explain the matter a little, and show what is our position at the present moment.

Up to the year 1816 marriages solemnized by Dissenting ministers, civil and military officers, and others, were esteemed valid in law; the fact was not doubted. To a great extent there were no other persons to solemnize marriages in India. The Established Episcopal Church, through its priesthood, was the first to cast doubts on the subject: this induced the Rev. Dr. Bryce, one of the chaplains of the Scotch Established Church, to obtain a law declaratory, declaring marriages solemnized by Scotch ministers valid in law. This bill passed, I believe, unscathed through the Commons; in the Lords it was thus mutilated—only the chaplains of the Scotch Church in India were permitted to solemnize marriages, and one or both the parties contracting the marriage must declare themselves to be bona fide members of the Scottish Establishment. This law placed all ministers and missionaries of the Scotch Church, not chaplains, as well as all other ministers and missionaries, in a more difficult position than they had previously been. Of this state of things the heads of the Episcopal Church did not fail to avail themselves. They not only cast doubts upon, but actually declared our marriages invalid. Under the circumstances the opinion of learned counsel both in India and Britain was taken, both by the missionaries and the East India Company. The opinions of the learned civilians then consulted were, as we might have anticipated, very various, and left the subject very much where it was—in a state of dubiety.

In that state the subject remained until the present moment, inflicting upon those conscientiously dissenting from the Established Church a wrong which has long since been removed from their brethren in Britain. The subject is not only a wrong in itself, but most injurious to the infant European churches, and to the cause of missions in India. If once our native converts obtain the impression that our marriages are invalid, what hold can we expect to have over them? and how can we prevent their remarriage, if they suppose that their first contract is null in law? They have been told by Popish and Puseyite authorities that our baptisms and burials are inefficacious, but this we heed not; we can meet such matters with reasonable arguments, strengthened by fact and Scripture; but the invalidity, or supposed invalidity of marriage is a different matter, and one so fraught with mischief, that it ought not to remain in dubiety for a single day: it places the faithful dissenting missionary in a most anomalous position. It, in effect, makes him say to the native convert, "God has empowered and blessed me to convert and save your immortal soul, but the law dubiously requires that you should go to the ministry of the Episcopal Established Church for the ordinance of marriage." This is one of the mischiefs of an Establishment in a foreign heathen colony.

Since my arrival I have endeavoured to bring the subject before the Legislature, and hope yet to see the measure crowned with success. On inquiry I find that the Government have appointed a commission to take into consideration dubious marriages in England, such as marriage with a wife's sister, &c.; to this commission has been referred the whole subject of colonial marriages. Let the Dissenters look to this commission, or they may in future days have much trouble in undoing that which may now be prevented with comparative ease. The

commission may not report on the subject for some years, or at least for a long time; and during the whole of its deliberations our case will remain in abeyance, and we wronged besides. British India is not, strictly speaking, a British colony, so that if even the commission should report, at a comparatively long period, it might leave us in India where we now are, with all our own work to do; a work which I doubt not, if taken up with spirit, may be at once accomplished.

Our case, moreover, is not affected by that which will be the chief cause of delay on the part of the commission, viz., whether marriages by civil and military officers or others not priests in holy orders be valid or not. This, if all the details are gone into, will be an interminable question; ours is a plain and simple case; we only ask to be put in this subject of marriage on the same ground with our brethren in Britain. We do not ask for a legislative, but a declarative law; declaring that our past marriages on all points are free from doubt, and that our future offices in this department of labour will be equally efficacious with those of our fellow-labourers of the Episcopal and Presbyterian Establishments.

I have forwarded a duplicate of the petitions or memorials which have been presented to the Commons in order that you may judge of the matters therein recorded, and aid us in obtaining that which is our right both as loyal members of the British Crown in India, and conscientious Christian men—a full and legal permission to solemnize marriages in the East.

Yours most truly,

THOMAS BOAZ,
Pastor, Union Chapel, Calcutta.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

CARLISLE.—The polling commenced on Tuesday morning, at eight o'clock, and continued with great spirit. Hodgson headed the list until four o'clock, when the numbers were:

Hodgson (Tory)	477
Howard (Liberal)	414
Dixon (Liberal)	328
M'Douall (Chartist)	66

LANCASTER.—The polling commenced on Tuesday morning, and terminated in the return of Mr. Armstrong, by a majority of 16, the numbers at the close being for

Mr. Armstrong	636
Hon. E. H. Stanley	620

The contest was close throughout the day, and the town was in a very excited state.

AYLESBURY.—We understand that Mr. John Houghton, of Sunning-hill, well known as an eminent agriculturist, is a candidate for the borough of Aylesbury, in the event of the unseating of the present members.

MONMOUTH COUNTY ELECTION.—Captain Somerset will again seek the honour of representing the county in Parliament. His address to the electors has already appeared.

LINCOLN ELECTION.—The contest at Lincoln has terminated in the return of the Liberal candidate.

At the close of the poll the numbers were:—

Hobhouse	554
Humfrey	501

Majority for the Liberal 53

A French surgeon has found that the bark of the *Adansonia digitata* is more efficacious in fevers than sulphate of quinine.

A MAIL TO AMERICA ONCE A WEEK.—Notice has been issued by the Post-office authorities, that during the ensuing summer, mails will be transmitted between Liverpool and North America once a week, by the British contract mail packets, which will leave Liverpool for Boston and New York, alternately, on every Saturday, and will be despatched from Boston and New York alternately, on their return voyage, every Wednesday. This weekly service will commence with the outward packets on the 8th of April, and with the homeward packets in May, and will continue until the end of November, after which time, and during the following four months, mails will be conveyed to Boston and New York only once a fortnight instead of weekly.

AN UNKNOWN DONOR.—Two successive advertisements lately appeared in the *Times*, mysteriously informing Z. A. that the Council of University College acceded to certain undivulged conditions of his. The secret is this:—An individual, who refused to give any name, called on Lord Auckland, as Vice-President of the Council, and announced his intention to give £5,000 to the College, to be a fixed fund at the disposal of the Council, on condition that the Council should consent to give to the fund such ordinary English surname as he should prescribe at the time of paying the money. In the event of this condition being accepted, the Council were to advertise their acceptance in the *Times* on two successive days, which Z. A. named. The Council did not consider there was anything in the terms for which £5,000 was not a good and sufficient equivalent, and the advertisements were accordingly inserted; but nothing more was heard of Z. A. for some days after the second had appeared. On the 29th of February, however (the rarer day the rarer deed), Z. A. made his appearance at the Admiralty, and handed over to Lord Auckland £5,000 in Bank of England notes—intimating, at the same time, that the fund was to be called "The Andrews' Fund." We believe an understanding exists that no attempts are to be made to trace the donor—and his name is not to be divulged, if by accident it should be discovered.—*Athenaeum*.

Petitions, signed by more than 6,000 ladies, have been presented to the Delaware Legislature, praying for the abolition of capital punishment.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.

THE ELECTIONS.—LEDRU ROLLIN'S CIRCULAR.

The circular of Ledru Rollin, Minister of the Interior, which has excited so much dissatisfaction, was addressed to the commissioners of the Provisional Government in the provinces, and relates to the approaching election of the National Assembly. He tells the commissioners that their powers are "unlimited." And the more minute directions which follow show that this phrase is no poetical flourish, but a literal fact. The commissioners are in every district to have "unlimited" power over prefects and sub-prefects, mayors, judges, the army, the National Guard, electors, and candidates. The principle on which all these are to be dealt with is, so far as we can make it out, that every man who was not known as a republican before there was a republic is to be distrusted, and in almost all cases displaced. "Everywhere," says the Minister of the Interior, "the prefects and sub-prefects ought to be changed;" and "you must provide for the replacement of mayors and their deputies." As to the army, "the armed force is under your orders," but, for reasons easily conceivable, the commissioners are in this case to do their spitting more gently, and "to gain over by marks of esteem and cordiality." Over the "law functionaries," including judges, the commissioners are invested with "sovereign authority." The election of officers for the National Guard is to be "carefully watched." But it is in the elections that the commissioners are principally to exert their "unlimited" powers. "Let your mot d'ordre," says the circular, "be new men, and as much as possible from the ranks of the people, the working classes." "Examine closely the qualifications of the candidates, and stop only at those who appear to present the strongest guarantees of republican opinion, and the greatest chance of success." What is this but taking the election out of the hands of the people, and giving it to the Provisional Government? This document was signed by M. Rollin alone!

The Minister of Justice and Public Worship has addressed a circular to the Archbishops and Bishops, directing them to advise the clergy in their dioceses to take part in the elections, and to impress on their congregations the great truths of Republicanism.

M. Ledru Rollin's circular caused a very general consternation, not only among the classes whom it was directly calculated to alarm, but among the friends of the Government. M. Kératry, a venerable and ardent Republican, whom the Provisional Government had recently appointed to be a Councillor of State, resigned in alarm at the arbitrary doctrines in the circular; with which he coupled M. Carnot's, calling to the representation of the country "men without instruction or badly educated." A deputation of the Republican Club waited on the Provisional Government to inform the members of the alarm created in the public mind. The deputation was received by M. Lamartine; who spoke at considerable length:—

He thanked the deputation for seeking an explanation. He declared that the Provisional Government had authorized no one to speak to the nation in its name, and especially to speak a language superior to the laws. He declared that the Government—recognising freedom of opinion, repudiating that worst sort of corruption, intimidation—had deliberately resolved not to interfere, as a Government, directly or indirectly, in the elections. He hoped "that public opinion would be reassured, and would not take in an alarming sense some words wrongly interpreted in the documents of the Ministers, who attach their signatures often in haste." And he promised that in a few days the Provisional Government would itself speak, to re-establish public confidence.

Accordingly, on Thursday a manifesto was issued by the Provisional Government calculated to reassure the timid, and encourage a peaceful spirit. The document is addressed to the electors generally, for whose guidance the writer holds up the example of the Parisians. The following is an extract:—

"We have but one word of instruction to give you. Be inspired by, and imitate the people! Think, feel, vote, and act like them." The Provisional Government will not "enter the slough of Royalty," and imitate usurping governments, by corrupting the electors. One of its duties will be "to shed upon electoral operations that light which enlightens consciences without forcing them. It confines itself to neutralizing the hostile influence of the late Administration, which has perverted and changed the nature of elections." It does not disturb itself with respect to ancient parties, which have lived a century in three days. "Necessity is a great master. Reflection is on our side." "Everybody will be Republican through conviction."

"Secure to others the independence of suffrage which you wish for yourselves. Regard not the name which those you consider your enemies write upon their ballot; and be assured beforehand, that they will write the only name which can save them—that is, that of a republic, capable and honest."

France is attempting at this moment, amidst financial difficulties bequeathed by Royalty, but under Providential auspices, the greatest work of modern times—the foundation of the government of the entire people, the organization of democracy, the republic of all rights, all interests, all faculties, and all virtues.

Circumstances are propitious. Peace is practicable. The new order of things may assume its place in Europe without any other perturbation than that of the prejudices existing against it. There is no anger in the soul of the people. If fugitive Royalty has not carried with it all the enemies of the Republic, it has left them impotent; and although they be invested with all the rights which the Republic guarantees to minorities, their interest and their prudence assure us that they will not

oppose the peaceable foundation of the popular constitution.

The document bears the signatures of all the members of the government.

The government not being able directly to disavow the circular of their colleague, M. Ledru Rollin, have adopted the expedient of causing decrees and instructions to be issued by the heads of different departments of the state; the effect of which will be to cut down the inordinate powers attributed by the Minister of the Interior to his commissaries in the departments to dimensions somewhat less menacing to the public liberties. The power of suspending and dismissing judges and magistrates had been revoked. On Saturday a circular appears in the *Moniteur* from the Minister of War to the generals commanding the military divisions and subdivisions, in which the powers given to the commissaries by M. Ledru Rollin over the military are revoked, and the duties of commanders and their subordinates towards the civil authorities more reasonably defined.

DEMONSTRATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION OF THE PEOPLE.

The National Guard of Paris before the 24th of Feb., numbered some 80,000 men; according to recent accounts it has already reached 235,000 men. The old guard consists chiefly of the *bourgeoisie*, who, alarmed at M. Ledru Rollin's circular, commenced the formation of clubs with the view of influencing the elections. Their imprudence has, however, destroyed their influence.

The National Guard includes companies of grenadiers and light infantry, which are distinguished in organization from the centre companies, and for that reason incurred their jealousy. These companies of *élite*, as their opponents call them, are officered by men who are Conservative in tendency, but who have the perfect confidence of the men they command. The Government distrusts the commanders, and would have others elected at the coming general election of officers; but have no chance of displacing them if the men of the companies have the election left in their hands. A late order of the Minister of the Interior has attempted to master the difficulty by breaking up the *élite* companies and fusing them with the general mass; establishing a new mode of election of officers, under which the Guard generally shall choose captains and lieutenants for the particular companies. This order has led to open revolt against the authority of the Provisional Government. On Thursday, a body of Guards, principally those of the Banlieu, Belleville, Vaugirard, and Batignolles, presented themselves at the Hotel de Ville, and demanded the recall of the decree in question. No promise of compliance was given; whereupon they said, "We come unarmed to-day to demand a right: you took us unfairly and by surprise. If by nine o'clock to-morrow morning that decree be not annulled, we will be here and armed."

The result of this rash menace is thus graphically described by the *Times*, in language of course coloured by its own views:—

It had scarcely been uttered, when forty young men were on their way to the *faubourgs* to raise the people. All night long the Clubs were listening to furious harangues, or plans of next day's campaign. There was even a talk of barricades. Early in the morning the same dense masses which had appeared on the 24th came pouring from the turbulent East. By noon at least seventy thousand *ouvriers* occupied the approaches to the Hotel de Ville. The National Guard, rebuffed the previous day, made their appearance. Thirteen thousand of them came up in arms, and found themselves unable to penetrate the compact mass of the people. For hours the two parties looked at one another. The National Guard, or rather the *Compagnies d'Elite*, of whom the demonstration chiefly consisted, at length perceived their position to be neither safe nor respectable, and slowly withdrew amidst the insults and jeers of the people. Such was this battle of classes. It was decided without a blow, but not the less a battle. The most brilliant and decisive victories in the field are sometimes the quiet result of masterly dispositions. An army finds itself surrounded or outnumbered by a rapid concentration of the enemy. The people of Paris may say, *Veni, vidi, vici*. "Yesterday's demonstration," says the *National* of Saturday, "ought to open the eyes of those who shut them systematically against the light. It is now understood that to again call in question the Republican form of government would be to give the signal of a civil war. The manifestation of March 17 ought to be marked down in the annals of the Republic. It takes its veritable character from the sentiment which prevailed amongst the immense majority of those who took part in it." It is not for us to question the right or necessity of this display, however much we may lament that 13,000 moderate men were worsted in the fearful parade. They drew it on themselves. Their appeal to numbers and arms justly called forth the like from the people. They had their innings on Thursday; next day it was the turn of the people to score.

While the people were thus in position, and overpowering by their very look the National Guard, they addressed the Provisional Government in a manner suited to that moment of victory. A deputation entered the Hotel de Ville, and, expressly on the strength of the "peaceful manifestation" they were making in defence of "themselves and the Government," demanded the removal of the troops of the line, some of whom had quietly returned to the city, the postponement to April 6 of the elections of the National Guard, and the postponement to May 31 of the elections of the National Assembly. It was only by dint of all the rhetoric and reason the Government could muster to its aid, that they were dismissed with a satisfactory answer to only one of their three demands—that of which the unfortunate National Guards were the subject. More time is allowed for the popular canvass and the displacement of the existing officers of the offending companies. But the deputation representing seventy thousand men within sight and hearing were slow to depart with only this instalment of their demands. "The people expect something better than words," one of them said even to Louis Blanc; "they desire a definitive reply. Take

what time you please to deliberate, but we will not leave without a reply to communicate to the people." The long interview at length over, and the deputation dismissed by the potent eloquence of Lamartine, the members of the Provisional Government were obliged to appear before the Hotel de Ville and address the assembled myriads. "Spare our time and strength," was the language of these men to the people throughout the long interview; "allow us to deliberate; respect your own appointments; confide in those you have chosen; remember that you have made us the Government of France as well as of Paris." They must indeed have abdicated their post had they surrendered all these points at once to the demands of the people.

The slightest accident, it is affirmed, might on Friday have led to most grave results. The government, forced to listen to demands made by a delegation, waited for by two hundred thousand men collected under their windows: a single indiscreet word—the slightest want of tact on the one side or the other—might have acted as a spark in a powder magazine, and in a moment produced the dissolution of the government and the nomination of a dictator, by a power which nothing could resist. M. de Lamartine had the admirable courage to warn the deputation of such a result in terms which they could not misunderstand:—"Beware of assemblages of this kind, however fine they may be; the 18th Brumaire of the people may, against its will, lead to the 18th Brumaire of despotism, and neither you nor I wish for that."

After their demonstration at the Hotel de Ville the workmen of Paris proceeded to the Ministry of the Interior, to salute M. Ledru Rollin personally, and the different trades succeeded each other without interruption from 4 to 7 o'clock p.m. Not less than 100,000 men presented themselves at the Hotel during that interval, and M. Ledru Rollin stood constantly under the porch receiving addresses and replying to them.

In the *Moniteur* of Sunday a decree of the Provisional Government is published, by which the elections of the officers of the National Guards of Paris are postponed from the 25th of March to the 5th of April.

There appears to be no doubt that the postponement of the elections in the National Guards will be made an excuse for the postponement of the elections for the National Assembly. The day fixed for the general elections is the 9th of April, only four days after the National Guards' election. The result of the first election will hardly be known when the other, and by far the most important one, will commence. This is a probably sufficient excuse of itself for the Provisional Government to postpone the general election for a few days; but the fact of the clubs demanding a postponement is a still greater incentive to the measure, and will, most probably, decide the Government in adopting it. Whether the postponement will be to the month of May or not remains to be seen.

All the legions have caused placards to be put up, inviting the workmen to join the ranks of the National Guards. The 1st legion, which, it was said, took the initiative in the demonstration of the National Guard on Thursday, and had declined receiving workmen into its ranks, shows itself most forward in soliciting the workmen to join its ranks, assuring them that they will be treated as brothers.

SUSPENSION OF CASH PAYMENTS.—FINANCIAL MEASURES.

On Wednesday there was so great a run on the Bank of France that the applicants were obliged to place themselves *en queue*, as at the entrances to theatres. Even then, each comer was an hour and a half before reaching the cash-office. In the course of the day this pressure forced the directors to consider the question of stopping payment. They drew up a report on the state of the cash department, and concluded with recommending to the Provisional Government a stoppage. They stated that their discount in Paris, from the 26th February to the 15th March, had been 110,000,000 francs; and that they had decreased their debt to the Treasury of 125,000,000 francs by 77,000,000 francs, not including 11,000,000 francs advanced for the public services on various accounts. They had discounted also 43,000,000 francs at their provincial branches. Thus they had maintained the credit of great firms, and prevented their suspension in the metropolis, and in Rouen, Havre, Lille, and Orleans. From the 26th February to the evening of the 14th March the Paris "en caisse" had only fallen to 70,000,000 francs from twice that sum. On the morning of the 15th, however, a panic had begun, under the influence of which above 10,000,000 francs had been withdrawn, and which threatened to continue and entirely strip the bank of its specie.

On the same day, the Provisional Government issued a decree stopping cash payments, and making general currency alterations—

Art. 1. From the date of the publication of the present decree, the notes of the Bank of France shall be received as a legal tender by the public officers and private individuals.

Art. 2. Until further orders, the Bank is dispensed from the obligation of paying its notes in specie.

Art. 3. In no case shall the issue of the Bank and its branch banks exceed 350,000,000 francs.

Art. 4. In order to facilitate the circulation, the Bank of France is authorized to issue small notes; which, however, shall not be of a lower denomination than 100 francs.

The commercial world is in a most critical state. On Saturday the banking-house of Laffitte, Blount, and Co., followed that of Gouin and Co., in its suspension of payments. This company had the banking business of four great lines of railway—the Rouen, Havre, Dieppe, and Boulogne, and is extensively connected also with England. Subsequently, other important banking-houses have also failed, and more

are expected to follow. By the breaking of one house, that of Messrs. Estrenne and Co., numbers of builders will be paralyzed in their operations, and a large additional number of labourers thrown out of work.

The *Moniteur* of Saturday contains a decree imposing upon all citizens who pay direct taxes an addition of 45 per cent. of the total amount of the year's taxes to which they are liable. This, when they are paid up, will bring into the Treasury very nearly 200 millions of francs.

Another decree postpones for six months after the days on which they become respectively due all Treasury bills issued before the 26th February. This will save the Treasury from disbursements which would amount to 275 millions.

The holders of the Treasury bills thus postponed have the option of waiting till the six months expire, when they will be entitled to receive the amount in specie, or of exchanging them for coupons of the new loan, at 5 per cent. par. Thus, the holders of these bills are placed on the same footing as the depositors in the savings' banks.

Of the amount by which these means will be brought into the Treasury, it is intended to appropriate sixty millions to augment the capital of the new banks of discount in Paris and the departments.

The receipt of the octroi, or the dues belonging to the city of Paris, has only been interrupted for a short time during the revolution; it has now, owing to the assistance and energy of the inhabitants, the national guard, and the operatives, resumed its usual course.

The *Presse* announces that the Bank of France, wishing to accommodate the holders of bank-notes as far as is consistent with the security of the credit of that establishment, proposes from Monday, the 20th inst., to pay its notes of 1,000 francs each by nine notes of 100 francs each and 100 francs in silver.

On Tuesday the joint-stock banking-house of Ganneron, Paris, stopped payment. The houses of Bechet, Thomas and Co., Chedeaux and Co., Estienne and Thion de la Chaume, have also suspended payment. It was at the latter house that the commercial bills of the great contractors for building were usually discounted. The commercial crisis, begun by the failure of the banks, has extended itself to the larger class of commercial houses, and on Wednesday the well-known house in the Rue de Bac called Le Petit St. Thomas, stopped. This *magasin* employed six hundred persons, all of whom are thus suddenly deprived of the means of subsistence.

DISCHARGE OF WORKMEN AND SERVANTS.

Advices from Havre of the 13th, say that the mob have again menaced the flax-mills unless the English were dismissed. The like has occurred at Lisieux and Malaunay, where the proprietors have suffered personal violence on account of their English workmen. There are 2,500 English workmen employed in the Normandy factories. Several large ships, laden with cotton, arrived at Havre, and, learning the state of things in the province, they sailed, without breaking their cargoes, for Liverpool. The managers of a large factory at Boulogne have been compelled to dismiss their English workmen, who, with their families, number nearly 700 persons.

The strike of the miners of Anzin is at an end. A compromise has taken place between them and the directors, by which their salary was fixed at two francs fifty cents. per day.

In Paris a complete system of persecution is carried out against domestic servants. Meetings of French domestics out of place have been held, in which the most violent denunciations were held out against all parties retaining English servants, and against the servants themselves. Deputations have gone round to the different families where English servants were known to be kept, and notice has been given, that if they did not instantly dismiss the English servants, they must abide by the consequences. At the present moment there is hardly a single English domestic to be found in any French family in Paris, although till within the last fortnight there were great numbers. The committee of the British Charitable Fund have been incessant in their attention to these unfortunate persons so unexpectedly thrown out of employment, and have aided great numbers of them to return to their own country; but the funds of that excellent institution are very limited, and by no means adequate to meet so unforeseen an expenditure. The general discharge of English servants and operatives is not, however, the only effect of the crisis. Families in general are suddenly making large reductions in their establishments. Many are dismissing three-fourths of their servants, and selling off all their horses and carriages. Others make a less sweeping reduction, but almost all act on the principle of reduction. Innumerable foreign residents have left their hotels, and ordered their furniture to be sold by auction. Manufacturing and industrial establishments are many of them working half time, and some are even about to close altogether for two or three months.

A letter from Folkestone, dated the 16th instant, says:—

Within the last two days we have had our usual arrivals, bringing a great many passengers, but very little of anything that could be called news.

The character, however, of the company coming over is somewhat changed, as instead of all English, the majority of the new comers are foreigners, including not only Russians and Germans, but many French.

Great numbers of poor creatures, both male and female, who had arrived so far on their way to England, were begging at Boulogne of their countrymen for assistance, and stating that, though the consul had provided for their passage home, still that they had no

means of travelling when they got to this country, having lost their all—both goods, wages, and money. Indeed, my informant told me that the amount of destitution amongst these poor sufferers was perfectly awful.

THE LABOUR QUESTION.

A report has been published of the first two sittings of the Government commission for regulating the affairs of the workmen. At the first sitting M. Louis Blanc explained the motive of the Government, before there was any discussion, for limiting the hours of work. Beyond ten hours, he said, was oppressive. To afford repose to the workman was to regain for the work the strength lost in performing it. The people demanded this reform with an imperious voice; and the masters, after conferring, acceded to the project of the commission. At the second sitting M. Louis Blanc brought forward a question of high interest. He proposed to establish, in the four most popular quarters of Paris, four buildings, each capable of accommodating about four hundred families of working men, with a separate apartment for each, that there might be a vast economy in lodging, firing, lighting, &c., and also in food, by the purchase in large quantities. Their economy would, he represented, be equivalent to an augmentation of wages to the workpeople, without any additional charge upon the masters. In this establishment there would be an asylum for the infants during the absence of their mothers, a school, yards for air and exercise, gardens, baths, &c. The first expense would be raised by mortgages upon the establishments themselves. These establishments would, said M. Louis Blanc, be accessible only to working men lawfully married, those who have the most numerous families being preferred. The utility and interest of such a creation was unanimously acknowledged by the commission, though some doubts were raised as to the concurrence of the workmen for whose benefit it was conceived. MM. Louis Blanc and Charles Duveyrier, however, soon set these doubts aside. In the end, M. Louis Blanc undertook to submit to the Government, for its sanction, the resolutions which were come to.

M. Louis Blanc's committee for the workmen has forbidden any works of artizanship to be carried on in either prisons or schools, or even convents, on account of their competing with the working class.

THE COMMISSION OF WORKMEN held a sitting on Saturday, in the Luxembourg, when Louis Blanc met a deputation of masters, whom he addressed on the evils of unlimited competition, and the advantages of association. The proceedings were most disorderly; silence could not be kept; all was anger and confusion, in the midst of which Louis Blanc abruptly left for the Hotel de Ville, to take a share in the receptions there. He was allowed to depart (says the *Times*) with freezing indifference.

The spirit that prevails in the trades of the metropolis is extending into the provinces. The workmen of the great ironworks of Creuzot have struck for higher wages. Fears are entertained at Roanne that, in consequence of a failure in that town, the extensive spinning mills of Chauffailles would be compelled to stop work.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

THE MARQUIS DE BOISSY has issued an address to the electors of the department of the Cher, offering himself as a candidate for the National Assembly. He is the first ex-peer of France who has taken this step.

The new 5f. pieces of the Republic were issued to the public on Friday. They are well executed. More than a million of francs are already issued from the Mint.

THE IRISH RESIDENTS IN PARIS were admitted, on Friday, to present an address to the Provisional Government after the deputies of the people had been dismissed. They assembled on the Place de la Concorde to the number of about 300, and marched in procession to the Hotel de Ville, preceded by a tricoloured flag and a green flag with an Irish harp. All wore the shamrock in their hats, it being St. Patrick's-day. M. de Lamartine replied. The following paragraph is published in the *Moniteur* of the following day:—"The English Ambassador having demanded friendly explanations with respect to the fact of an Irish flag having been presented yesterday at the Hotel de Ville, the Minister of Foreign Affairs has replied to him that France did not recognise any other flag in England but that of the three united kingdoms. He added, that in replying to the Irish, he made no use of any expression which was not in conformity with that thought, at the same time that he could not but manifest the sympathies of France for religious and liberal Ireland." The *Moniteur* adds:—"It is by a typographical error that the *Moniteur* of this morning makes M. Lamartine say that the Republic recognises the Irish as French citizens. The phrase was addressed to a citizen of the name of De Sens, who is of Irish origin, who had joined the deputation, and who had come to offer his services to the Provisional Government. He was the only citizen to whom M. de Lamartine replied, 'The Republic congratulates itself on your being naturalized in France, and adopts you as a French citizen.'"

The Provisional Government have received despatches from General Cavaignac, the new Governor of Algiers. He declares the spirit of the army and the inhabitants of Algeria towards the Republic excellent.

CLUBS OF PARIS.—The following are the names of some of the clubs now meeting daily in Paris:—The Club des Hommes Libres, Club des Républicains Socialistes, Club de la Société Centrale Républicaine, Société du Faubourg St. Denis, Club de l'Emancipation des Peuples, Club du Progrès Démocratique,

Société Populaire de Montrouge, Comité Centrale Maconique, Club de la Montagne, Club de l'Abbaye, Club des Ouvriers Nationaux. There are many others, to which must be added the clubs of every nation of Europe, of nearly every Canton in Switzerland, and of every city and large town in France whose natives are resident in the capital.

M. DUVEROIER DE HAURANNE has issued an address to the electors of the Department of the Cher, which he represented in the Chamber of Deputies. He declares himself determined to carry out the Republic in its full spirit.

At the grand ball on Saturday evening, in the Jardin d'Hiver, for the benefit of the workmen out of employ, the National Guardsman stationed at the door was no other than Prince Polignac, the son of the Minister of Charles the Tenth.

Several employers, accompanied by some dozen or so of operatives, waited on M. Rothschild, and demanded a loan of 5,000 francs upon the deposit of securities of the nominal value of 50,000. M. Rothschild not seeming willing to accede to this demand, the masters pressed it with great urgency; saying, that in case of refusal they could not answer for what the operatives might do. M. de Rothschild demanded some moments for consideration; and, retiring to another room, he caused a party of the National Guard to be brought from an adjacent post, to resist by force the demands pressed upon him.

During the tumults of the revolution, the Conciergerie was the scene of some irregularities, by which MM. Beauvallon and d'Ecqueville and M. Teste were allowed to go at large. M. Teste has been retaken: he had not attempted to leave his house. The other gentlemen have not been heard of since their enlargement.

It is said that there are now 540,000 persons out of employment in and about Paris; a number daily increasing.

The Provisional Government has published a decree ordering the release of all individuals who may have been condemned to imprisonment for offences connected with the exercise of their religious duties. All prosecutions which have been commenced are to be withdrawn, and all fines which have not been paid are to be cancelled.

The Government Commissary at Lyons, M. Emanuel Arago, has issued a decree dissolving all unauthorized religious congregations and corporations, and especially the congregation of Jesuits, in the department at the head of which he is placed. The Archbishop of Lyons has written a fierce letter to the journals, denouncing the Provisional Government for closing the establishments of religious communities not authorized by the law. The archbishop claims the right of these nunneries and convents to exist by the right of association. The Fourrierites meet, says the bishop, so do the clubs; and even the women of Paris have formed a deliberating assembly to defend the rights of their sex. Why should rights granted to all be forbidden only to Christians? Such is the language of the prelate.

LOUIS PHILIPPE's former residence, the Palais Royal, is being partly converted into barracks.

LOUIS PHILIPPE's PAPERS, &c., SECURED.—It appears that papers and correspondence, of the highest importance, have been found in the cabinet of the ex-King at Neuilly; and that a few of those papers were sent to M. de Lamartine, with a view to induce him to pay handsomely for the whole. When Neuilly was invaded, plundered, and afterwards set on fire by a band of ruffians from the neighbouring villages, a gentleman who appeared to be well acquainted with the distribution of the apartments in the chateau, was observed by many persons entering the ex-King's closet, attended by a National Guard and one of the servants of the house. One of my informants gives this as a rumour which requires confirmation; but another states it as a fact, and even names the individual, who is an inhabitant of Neuilly, and has been for twenty years one of the *protégés* of the d'Orleans. It is certain that all the papers of the ex-King are in the hands of the Provisional Government. His secret correspondence with the diplomatic agents at the foreign courts will be published. Europe will now know how far the Napoleon of Peace is entitled to the respect so long claimed for his wisdom and his honesty.—*Patriot*.

Letters from Lyons announce that the armed workmen evacuated on the morning of the 16th the fortified *enceinte* of La Croix Rousse, which was occupied by the National Guard and troops of the line. The Fort of Montessuy had been likewise evacuated by the people.

A VERY EXCITING SCENE took place at a meeting of the Provisional Government on Wednesday evening. The majority having demanded the resignation of M. Ledru Rollin, this gentleman replied that he would never resign, and that if they wished to dismiss him he would appeal to the people, at the same time advancing towards a window, no doubt with the intention of addressing the populace. Upon this, M. Garnier Pagès drew his pistols, and threatened to fire if M. Ledru Rollin persisted. A most violent scene ensued, M. Rollin proceeding so far as to raise his hand against M. de Lamartine, who said, "Sir, I would rather die in an *émeute* than upon the scaffold." Ledru Rollin then became calmer on the threat of Garnier Pagès that he would show the people a treasury bond for 300,000f. drawn on the treasury by Ledru Rollin.

On Friday night, at 2 o'clock, a regiment of chasseurs (cavalry) and two regiments of the line were sent out of Paris. They had but lately arrived, and the people threatened to disarm them.

CAUTION.—We have learned that all letters, without exception, addressed to English persons in France, are opened by M. Ledru Rollin's secret agents. Let Englishmen, therefore, beware of compromising their friends.—*Standard*.

The *Morning Herald* anticipates that Prince Jerome Buonaparte, the governor of the Molides, will eventually become King of the French!

ANTICIPATION!—It is the hour of the priesthood which has arrived at length. They alone will have power for some time to guide and govern the people. Rail not, nor wonder at this sudden announcement of the truth. To those who live in Paris and watch with interest the progress of human thought, the anticipation of all which is now occurring has been formed for these five years past; and should the clergy at length re-grasp the power which they lost eighteen years ago by its abuse, there be none who will dare to deny that they have well and fairly earned it. It is the only order of society which has ever come to the relief of the working classes not merely by spiritual consolation and holy admonition—this had been pronounced to be, like all the rest, delusion—but by temporal relief, by alms, and by self-sacrifice.—*Correspondent of the Manchester Examiner*.

THE NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT.—A DRAMA.—On the Monday following the flight of Louis Philippe, a grand council was held of all the revolutionary leaders assembled to dictate terms *à huis clos* to the Provisional Government. The wise and calm demeanour of Lamartine seems to have irritated in no small degree the boiling, passionate nature of Lagrange, whose excitement was so fierce and terrible that several of the members of the Assembly prepared to withdraw in alarm. Lamartine alone blenched not, and the *sang froid* and self-possession displayed in his replies only served to increase the savage anger of his opponent the more. At length, exasperated beyond control, the infuriated Republican, drawing a pistol from his pocket, rushed towards Lamartine, and exclaiming, "Thou art no true patriot!"—pointed the weapon at the head of the Minister—"What hinders me from taking thy life now—at once—upon the instant?" shrieked he, with redoubled fury, as the calm glance of Lamartine met his eye. "Your own conscience," coolly replied the Minister, "and the utter uselessness of such an outrage—for should I fall, there will still remain my colleagues, who, all to a man, have resolved to die rather than submit to violence, or to return to the senseless anarchy of '93!" The words had the effect of calming for an instant the fury of Lagrange—he dropped the weapon which he held, and turning pale as death, while his eye quailed before the steady gaze of Lamartine, he muttered between his teeth, "Thou art not a true Republican, nor yet a true patriot—but I verily believe thou art an honest man!"—and then sank again upon his seat at the council board, trembling in every limb, and apparently exhausted with the effort of passion to which he had given way. It was then that his neighbour, La Caussidiere, managed to seize the pistol which he had placed beside him, and by his presence of mind saved the Assembly from a dreadful catastrophe, for in the space of a few moments Lagrange arose, and with the most frightful yells and howlings, began to rend the clothes from his back, and to tear the flesh from his bosom, until the blood spurted forth, all the while uttering the most fearful imprecations and blasphemies. In an instant the whole Assembly was in an uproar—the terror of the scene was greater than words can describe. It was evident that the fierce excitement of the last few days had turned the brain of Lagrange, and produced a fit of raging madness. He was secured with difficulty, and borne to a *maison de santé* at Montmartre, where he now remains, I believe, still a raving maniac. The assembly all gathered round Lamartine with congratulations, but the effect of the scene was such that many were forced to retire, and the meeting broke up.—*Letter in the Atlas*.

MAGNETISM OF THE EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF FRANCE.—The following strange and startling story is abridged from the last letter of the Paris correspondent of the *Atlas* newspaper:—"Doctor B— is one of the first magnetizers in Paris; and the conversation (at Neuilly, last summer) as is always the case when he is present, turned upon magnetism. Being pressed by the King, he looked round to see if any amongst the company bore outward sign of any great susceptibility to magnetic influence. 'There is one person present,' said the Doctor, 'who possesses, in a most extraordinary degree, every symptom of this peculiar faculty. Madame la Princesse de Joinville would, I am sure, astonish us, would she but submit to the trial.' After some little reluctance, the fair Princess consented. In a moment, and I believe with no other ceremony than the placing of his thumbs against hers, did she realize the Doctor's prevision, and fell into as deep a magnetic slumber as it was possible to witness. There was a deep silence, and the Doctor turned to demand which member of the family would like to consult her in the name of the rest. Madame Adelaide it was who volunteered, and to her questions did the patient reply with such truth concerning the past, that she felt emboldened to consult her with regard to the future. 'I give you my honour as a gentleman,' added my informant, 'that in that space every event which has happened with such fearful rapidity to astonish and confound us all was foretold with the most awful precision. The day, the hour of the flight, was named, as well as the despoilment of the Tuileries; the secreting of the diamonds once belonging to the crown of the Emperor, by a person about the Court (they have not been found), and a second catastrophe not far distant, and which concerns the Orleans family alone,

'You name me not,' said Madame Adelaide, 'with whom I am to fly?' 'You will remain calmly and peacefully in France,' replied the somnambule; on which observation the King laughed, and said that this last prophecy was sufficient to betray the fallacy of the whole, as his sister would be incapable of deserting them in the hour of peril. I have heard this story from two or three individuals, and from one who declares himself to have been an eye-witness to the scene, and to have no reason to doubt its accuracy."

REVOLUTION IN AUSTRIA—FLIGHT OF PRINCE METTERNICH.

On the 13th inst., the session of the Lower Austrian Chamber of Deputies was opened at Vienna. The business of the day was commenced, but scarcely half an hour had elapsed when a mass of people forced their way into the hall, and several individuals demanded in a loud tone radical reforms in the constitution. Count Montecuculi, Marshal of the Diet, who possesses great popularity and judgment, said a few words, and promised to submit to the Emperor the petition which had the day before been decided upon by the representatives; and accordingly, accompanied by an immense body of the populace, immediately repaired to the palace. After considerable difficulty he succeeded in gaining access to the Archduke Ludwig, Chief of the Home Department, by whom he was informed that there was no disposition to make concessions. It was, however, determined to await the result of a cabinet council, which was immediately summoned. The Marshal of the Diet, and the people who accompanied him, waited in vain for their resolutions from twelve to four o'clock, and when the result was communicated to the large body of people assembled without, the indignation of the people knew no bounds. The students headed the multitude, and harangued them from the steps of the House of Assembly. The tumult continually increased, and the mob amounted to from 60 to 100,000 men; suddenly the troops appeared, and fired among the people to disperse them; ten or twelve persons were killed and many wounded, among whom was a student. Meanwhile the number of the troops and the mass of the people increased still more; four pieces of canon were placed upon St. Stephen's Platz, and the cannoniers stood by the guns with burning matches in their hands, but none were discharged—the people rushed (unarmed) *en masse* to their mouths, and shouted, "Who dares to fire upon us, your unarmed brethren? The workmen attacked the bureaux of the police, and even some barricades were erected. The alarm drum was beat, and the Burgher Guard called out. The Burgher Guard speedily appeared armed, and were received by the populace with loud acclamations. They now repaired *en masse* to the Palace, and were informed that Prince Metternich had given in his resignation, and that the wishes of the people should be attended to.

The people were perfectly satisfied with this declaration, and paraded the streets with demonstrations of joy till midnight. By command of the police the city was illuminated. Save the destruction of the police office, no damage was done, but all the shops were closed by way of precaution. The students, who patrolled all night with the Burgher Guard, were supplied by the government with arms from the arsenal.

Letters from Vienna of the evening of the 15th announce that the Emperor had published a decree abolishing the censorship of the press, and establishing a National Guard—(these are the very words). Count Hoyos is appointed commandant of that force, and Prince Lichtenstein of the troops in Vienna.

The number slain on the 13th amounted to nearly 300 persons. Up to the evening of the 15th Vienna remained tranquil, and the concessions granted by the Emperor seemed to satisfy the people. The burghers and students, however, still retained their arms, and a proclamation had been issued, convening the meeting of the General Estates of the country for the 3rd of July, or earlier, if possible. In the suburbs great excesses and destruction of property are understood to have occurred; but in the city both property and person were respected. Already the enrolment of the National Guard was in rapid progress. Its services had commenced, and it was to consist of 60,000 men. At the moment the post was leaving the Emperor was driving through the city in the midst of acclamations, and in the evening the funeral of those who had been slain in the outbreak was to take place with great solemnity. Although general business had been suspended, the banks and savings-banks still continued their payments.

Reports were circulated in Vienna of serious riots in the neighbouring country. Several factories had been burnt, and it was even said that the Palace of Schenbrunn was in flames.

Prince Metternich, Chancellor of State of the Household and of the Court, has fled to his estate in Moravia. Had he fallen into the hands of the people nothing could have saved him. His villa on the Rennweg has been sacked and demolished by the mob. The formation of a new Ministry is said to have been confided to Count Kolowrat and Count Montecuculi.

PRUSSIA.

OUTBREAK AT BERLIN.

A monster meeting at Berlin, on the 13th instant, to petition for reform, ended in a tumult, which was suppressed by troops. The police and the *gendarmes*, having in vain tried to disperse the crowd, which, however, in no way disturbed the public peace, the garrison was called out; and when the people returned from the park they found the streets and the squares thronged with troops. To-

wards nine o'clock in the evening the Garde du Corps (*cuirassiers*) and the Dragoons began to clear the square before the palace, and though no resistance took place on the part of the people, the troops (according to all accounts, even of persons not pertaining to the popular party) rode through the people without any concern for the personal safety of individuals, and made use of their weapons in such a manner that several persons were wounded very severely, and one of them mortally.

Towards midnight tranquillity was restored. On Tuesday these scenes were repeated, and again several persons were wounded, and one killed on the spot. The people were again attacked by the troops yesterday evening, and according to the account received by persons who arrived here this afternoon by the railway, the results have been most disastrous, ten having been killed, and about 100 wounded, while the soldiery is said to have suffered very severely, by the people throwing stones at them, and awaiting their attack behind some sort of barricades, which impeded their progress.

On Wednesday night there had been a very serious collision between the people and the military, the students being very prominent among the people, acting as their leaders, and bearing the brunt of the conflict. Ten deaths resulted, and there were upwards of a hundred wounded.

BERLIN, MARCH 16, THREE P.M.—The King is wavering. He has already conceded the institution of a Burgher Guard, which was included in the constitutional reforms demanded by the people. The Ministry have refused to act, unless on the solicitation of the burghers. The armed police manifest every disposition to conciliate the people. The petition for the abolition of the censorship of the press is granted by the King. A deputation of 200 students has waited on the Prince of Prussia, to demand the withdrawal of the troops, and to inform him that, in case of refusal, they would instantly arm, and resist them in the event of their attacking the people. A collision has taken place between the military and the civilians. Some barricades have been erected, and the bridges have been drawn up. The soldiers have charged several times, and many have been wounded, and some killed. The Berlin burghers are now fully aroused.

According to advices from Berlin of the 17th, order was restored; but as his Majesty had not granted all the concessions demanded, more disturbances were expected.

At Erfurt the military fired on the people, and several have been killed.

The *State Gazette* of the 15th contained a patent by King Frederick William, announcing that, in conjunction with Austria, he had invited the German Confederates to meet for immediate consultation on existing affairs. The patent contains this declaration:—

We are resolved to strive with all our energy that these consultations may lead to an actual regeneration of the German Confederation; so that the German people, fundamentally united by strengthened free institutions, and at the same time protected from the dangers of discord and anarchy, may regain its ancient grandeur and assume its proper rank in Europe.

The King also announces the opening of the Prussian United Diet on the 27th of April.

The *Prussian Universal Gazette* makes the further announcement, that the Congress of the German States will be opened at Dresden, on the 25th of March.

We regret to state that blood has been shed at Magdeburgh. On the evening of the 15th inst., a noisy crowd having collected before the house of the chief of the police, M. Kamptz, proceeded to break his windows. After wreaking their vengeance on this obnoxious personage, the crowd would most probably have retired quietly, had not the doors of the artillery barracks been suddenly thrown open, whence a large body of that branch of the service issued with drawn sabres, and commenced a furious onslaught on the mob. Many were severely wounded, and more severely crushed and bruised in attempting to escape from their assailants. The conduct of the artillery had occasioned the greatest disgust, and a general outbreak was momentarily expected.

For the remainder of Foreign News see Page 202

BRIDGEWATER.—THE SUFFRAGE.—A petition, of which the following is a copy, is in course of signature in this town:—

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled:
The Humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Borough of Bridgewater,

Sheweth,—That a large proportion of your petitioners are denied the right of voting for representatives to serve them in Parliament; that thereby they are deprived of all control over the imposition of taxes, over the expenditure of the revenue, and over the enactment of the laws which they are required to obey.

That your petitioners believe that in a representative government it is wise and equitable that the voice of the people should be fully, fairly, and freely exercised, in the choice of those who are to govern and make laws for them; and that a government formed on so just and broad a basis would be the most secure and permanent, inasmuch as that it could not fail to possess the confidence, the affection, and the support of the people.

That your petitioners are of the opinion that an equal and popular system of representation in Parliament would lead to more fair arrangements for raising the taxes, and to more just and economical government; your petitioners therefore pray your honourable House to pass a law for the full, fair, and free representation of the people in Parliament.

"Do you make yourselves at home, ladies," said a female to her visitors, one day. "I am at home myself, and wish you all were."

BROADSTAIRS.—THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE.—The inhabitants of this little town witnessed an enthusiastic meeting in Hale's spacious Assembly-room, to hear Mr. Robert Lowrey (on behalf of the National Alliance) lecture upon "The mental, moral, and political elevation of the people; the injustice and evil effects of exclusive institutions, shown from the present state of things; the masses—their vices and virtues—what they have been, are, and may become—the interest of all classes in procuring their elevation." The audience frequently applauded the able lecturer for so beautifully exposing the corrupt and demoralising institutions of the present day, coupled with suitable exhortations for the immediate procuring of the necessary changes in the Government affairs of the country; concluding with an earnest desire that the principles of temperance and peace should not be lost sight of. The deputy, Mr. Read, was unanimously called to the chair. At the close of the meeting another one was called for from Mr. Lowrey this day week.—March 15.

ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.—COURSE OF LECTURES.—The second lecture of the course was delivered last night, at the City of London Literary Institution, Aldersgate-street, by the Rev. John Burnet, the subject being,—"The Endowment of all Religious Sects." The audience was a very respectable one, a large proportion of them being gentlemen. Charles Gilpin, Esq., occupied the chair. Our space will not allow us to give any report of the lecture. It was listened to with the greatest attention; and, at the close, a vote of thanks was moved by Nathaniel Griffin, Esq., seconded by the Rev. J. H. Hinton, and carried amid great applause. Elihu Burritt was among the audience. The lectures are about to be published in a cheap form.

THE INCOME-TAX AND MILITIA.—A numerous and influential meeting was held at the Gate-house, Highgate, on Wednesday last, to consider the injustice and inequality of the income-tax, and our vast military expenditure. The chair was taken by W. H. Ashurst, Esq., who, with other gentlemen, addressed the meeting in spirited addresses. A petition to Parliament, founded on the resolutions, which appear in our advertising columns, was adopted.

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.—WHAT IS IT?—A LECTURE on the above subject will be delivered by EDWARD MIALI, Esq., on TUESDAY Evening, MARCH 28th, at the CITY OF LONDON LITERARY INSTITUTION, Aldersgate-street (opposite Falcon-square). To commence at Half-past SEVEN o'clock. Admission by Ticket—to the remaining Lectures of the Course, 1s. 6d.; Single Lecture, 6d.—to be had at the offices of the Anti-state-church Association; of Mr. C. Gilpin, 5, Bishopsgate-street; Mr. E. H. High-street, Islington; and Mr. Mudie, Bookseller, King-street, Bloomsbury.

FOURTH SERIES OF

PSALMODY EXERCISES

in the METROPOLIS, by the Rev. J. J. WAITE.

On MONDAY, the 27th inst., the Rev. Mr. AVELING'S CHAPEL, KINGSLAND, and three following Monday Evenings.

On TUESDAY, the 28th, the Rev. Dr. REED'S CHAPEL, WYCLIFFE, and three following Tuesday evenings.

On WEDNESDAY, the 29th, the Rev. G. CLAYTON'S CHAPEL, WALWORTH, and three following Wednesday Evenings.

On THURSDAY, the 30th, the Rev. S. MARTIN'S CHAPEL, WESTMINSTER, and the three following Thursday Evenings.

On FRIDAY, the 31st, the WESLEYAN CHAPEL, LIVERPOOL-ROAD, and the three following Friday Evenings.

Doors open at Six. Exercises to commence at Seven, and conclude at Nine. Admission Books—One Shilling—may be obtained in the Vestries of the Chapels.

THOMAS E. THORESBY, Secretaries.
JOHN S. EASTMEAD.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, March 22, Two o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

The House of Lords adjourned at an early hour last evening, after disposing of some unimportant business.

THE EX-ROYAL FAMILY OF FRANCE.—In the House of Commons, in reply to a question from Captain Charteris, Lord PALMERSTON informed the House that there was no foundation for the statement that a communication had been made by the British Government, through Lord Normanby, to the Provisional Government of France, apologizing for the residence of the late royal family of France in this country. It was, however, true that Lord Normanby, in a private letter to him, had conveyed the intelligence that some jealousy was felt in France with regard to the reception given in England to the late Ministers of the ex-King of the French. He had, therefore, in a private letter to Lord Normanby, desired him, in case such a feeling should continue to prevail in France, to assure the Government that the reception given to those Ministers would be that given to former Ministers who, from unfortunate circumstances, had been compelled to seek refuge in this country—namely, the reception of hospitality; but that in our dealings with the French Government our Government would deal fairly, honestly, and openly, and that under no circumstances would there be the slightest ground for imputing to us any participation in intrigues hostile to the Republic.

THE DUKE OF MONTPEISIER.—In reply to a question from Lord DUDLEY STUART, as to whether Ministers had received any communication from the French Provisional Government relative to the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, which had been the occasion of his sudden departure, Lord Palmerston said they had not. He had not heard that any such correspondence as was alluded to had been discovered. He had no knowledge or belief that any

such documents existed. No intimation of the sort had been given to the British Government. As to the departure of the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier, it was entirely the result of their own choice.

BRAZIL.—In reply to Lord G. Bentinck, Lord Palmerston informed the House that the last despatch which he had received from Lord Howden, our Minister at Rio Janeiro, contained information which led him to despair of concluding either a commercial or a slave-trade treaty with the Government of the Brazils. Lord Howden, however, mentioned some circumstances which led him to think that a change of opinion might take place in the Brazils.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES then brought under the consideration of the House the injuries alleged to have been suffered by Mr. Rayson, an English merchant, from the Austrian authorities at Constantinople. He was proceeding with his statement when an hon. member moved that the House be counted, and forty members not being present, the House stood adjourned.

DUNDALK ELECTION.—The Clerk of the Crown attended to amend the return for the borough of Dundalk, after which Mr. McCullagh took the oaths and his seat for that borough, in the room of Mr. M'Tavish, unseated on petition.

INCOME-TAX.—Mr. HUME gave notice that, on Monday next, when the bill relating to the income-tax was brought in, he should move that it be referred to a select committee. [It is not improbable that the motion will be agreed to.]

AYLESBURY ELECTION.—Mr. R. PALMER brought up the report of the Aylesbury Election Committee. The committee reported that Lord Nugent was duly returned to serve in this present Parliament as one of the members for Aylesbury; but that Mr. John Peter Deering was not duly elected; and that, at the last election for that borough, as far as regarded the said John P. Deering, he was, by his agents, guilty of treating. The report was ordered to be received.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.—PARIS, MONDAY MORNING.—General Subervic, the Minister of War, has resigned, and been replaced *ad interim* by M. Arago. The General is named Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour, in place of Marshal Gerard.—The *Moniteur* publishes two decrees. The first, signed by the Finance Minister, postpones the payment of draughts, bills of exchange, &c., till the 15th of next month; and the second empowers the tribunals of commerce to suspend actions against debtors for three months, provided the debtor wishes it.—M. Marie, Minister of Public Works, has addressed a proclamation to the men lately employed in public works, who have ceased their operations in consequence of a reduction of wages. The Minister calls upon them in the name of patriotism to return to their employments.—The Prefect of Police has issued a decree, addressed to foreign workmen, informing them that they cannot participate in the labour and wages which the Provisional Government had assigned to native workmen in the Government workshops.—The national loan, from which so much was expected, is a complete failure. Instead of 100 millions, which was expected from it, only three persons have subscribed; and these, instead of subscribing cash, have only given *bons de trésor*.—No definite decision is yet come to relative to the elections, but there is little doubt they will be postponed.—The National Guard Club on Monday sent a deputation to the Provisional Government, to make known its organization, and its adhesion to the Republic. M. Lafitte has addressed a letter to the Finance Minister, enclosing a gift of 25,000*fr.* to the public treasury. The revolution at Vienna had given the utmost delight. M. Louis Blanc announced it to the delegates of the different trades, sitting on Sunday, who received it with a triple salute of applause, and cries of "Vive la Paix." The *Democratic Pacifique*, speaking of this event, says:—

The day of war is past. Let battalions be formed, but let them be battalions of workmen; let us unfold the banner of peace, let us advance to the attack of uncultivated deserts, of waste lands and pestilential marshes, let us exterminate ignorance, let us annihilate poverty.

The accounts from the disturbed districts in Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Baden are most distressing. A letter, dated Nürnberg, 14th instant, states that the peasants had commenced acts of violence against the persons of the landed proprietors. A Baron Kürnberg, near Lichtenfels, was so severely beaten that his life is despaired of, and many others only saved their lives by a precipitate flight.

The Pope has appointed a new and more liberal ministry.

DENMARK.—Letters from Kiel, of the 13th March, state that a courier has brought very important news from Copenhagen: the press is entirely free, and popular meetings are authorized. A letter from Altona, of the 14th of March, speaks of the imminence of the rupture between Denmark and the German duchies, in consequence of the resolution of the King to effect the incorporation of the duchies without further delay.

No information has as yet been received of the report that Hungary has declared its independence.

UNITED STATES.—The "Ivanhoe" brings New York papers to the 5th inst. From Mexico there is nothing further of an important character. The prevailing opinion was, that the House of Representatives would not ratify the treaty made by Mr. Triat with Mexico.

PRUSSIA.—The reports published in the Paris papers of Monday, relative to the flight of the King of Prussia, on the 18th, turns out to be an absurd rumour, or an exaggerated report of what took place at Berlin on the 13th and 14th. By telegraph this morning news has been received to the 18th, as follows:—

It is generally understood, that the meeting of the General Congress, originally determined upon for the 27th, will be held on the 4th of April.

Berlin continued in tranquillity up to the departure of the train for Hamburg, at noon of Saturday.

The following telegraphic communications have also been received from Hull:—

St. Petersburg, March 11.

The Emperor has given instructions to the Minister of War to place the troops on a war footing. His Imperial Majesty feels bound to adopt this step by the terms of existing treaties with other Powers; and, in the event of a necessity arising, for affording all the protection in his power to the claims of legitimacy against the destructive advance of revolutionists and anarchists.

Hanover, March 18.

A deputation from various States waited on the King yesterday, to enforce the claims of the people to various reforms. His Majesty, after hearing several of its members, asked time for consideration; but the delay was objected to, as altogether needless, and in half an hour the King's reply was made known to them. This important document grants, first, freedom of the press; secondly, the convention and public deliberation of the States; thirdly, an amnesty for all political offences. Nor were the rest of their demands rejected, although the Royal reply, in that respect, is less specific, and therefore less satisfactory.

Vienna, March 15.

The Emperor has this day taken a drive in his carriage through several of the principal streets of the capital, accompanied by his brother. The people wanted to take the horses from the carriage and draw it themselves, but at the express instance of the Emperor they refrained from such an act of servility. A popular ministry had been formed.

THE INDIAN MAIL.—A telegraphic message has been received from Folkestone, announcing the arrival of the Indian mail at Paris. India was quiet; and, in general, healthy. The mail brings no political news of importance. An attempt at insurrection had been made at Shornpora, which had, however, been suppressed.

IRELAND.—The "MONSTER MEETING" of the Confederates, held on Monday, at the North-wall, attracted a considerable crowd of the humbler classes; but many, who went from motives of curiosity alone, remained for a little time and then departed. In fact, the quay was lined during the day by numbers of the working people, either proceeding to or returning from the place of meeting. Within the city the affair excited very little attention, and the most perfect tranquillity prevailed. About 7,000 persons were present. There was not a policeman or soldier present, at least in uniform. The chair was taken by Mr. Richard O'Gorman, sen. Amongst the leaders on the platform were Mr. W. S. O'Brien, M.P.; and Messrs. Meagher, Mitchell, Duffy, O'Gorman, and several other members of the Irish Confederation. Mr. Hodges, the Government reporter, was present. The meeting having separated, those who could be really looked upon as supporters of the Confederation party—as the great majority of those present were evidently attracted by curiosity—about 1,000 in number, walked in a body, four abreast, through the city, shouting and cheering as they went along.

Sixteen fishermen were drowned at Latheronwhod, Sutherlandshire, last week, by the swamping of their boats in the surf.

The bulletin issued from Buckingham Palace yesterday announces that the Queen and Infant Princess continue well.

REDUCTION OF NAVAL EXPENDITURE.—The following is the minority of thirty-eight who voted for a reduction of the naval service, on Monday:—

Aglionby, H. A.	Hindley, C.	Sullivan, M.
Alcock, T.	Kershaw, J.	Tanquer, H. W.
Bouverie, Hon. E. P.	King, Hon. P. J. L.	Thicknesse, E. A.
Bowring, Dr.	Lushington, C.	Thompson, Colonel
Bright, J.	Meagher, T.	Thompson, G.
Brotherton, J.	Molesworth, Sir W.	Thornley, T.
Crawford, W. S.	Mowatt, F.	Urquhart, D.
Duke, Sir J.	Pearson, C.	Wakley, T.
Duncan, G.	Pilkington, J.	Walmesley, Sir J.
Fagan, W.	Raphael, J.	Williams, J.
Gardner, R.	Salway, Colonel	
Greene, J.	Scholefield, W.	Tellers.
Hall, Sir B.	Smith, J. B.	Hume, J.
Henry, A.	Stuart, Lord D.	Cobden, E.

IRISH PROSECUTIONS.—I believe there is no doubt whatever, as I apprised you last week, that prosecutions have been determined upon by the Government, but it would be premature at present to enter into details.—*Correspondent of the Church.*

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET, MARCH 21.

We have very moderate supplies of British Grain, Meal, and Flour, since last Tuesday, and the only arrival from abroad is about 4,900 quarters of Indian Corn. The export of Indian Corn and Corn Meal to Ireland is increasing, upwards of 15,000 qrs. of the former and 2,723 barrels of the latter having gone there during the past week. There has been scarcely any variation in the value of any article of the trade during the week, and buyers act with much caution. The weather is again wet, and the sowing season must now be a late one. The favourable report from Mark-lane yesterday had little influence over our market this morning. A very moderate business was transacted in Wheat, at barely so good prices as were obtained last Tuesday for either old or new.

CORN-EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22.

Since Monday we have but moderate supplies of Grain. The weather having become finer than of late, the Wheat trade is not so brisk as on Monday last, but prices are firmly maintained. Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 1,210 qrs.; Irish, 870 qrs.; Foreign, 1,140 qrs. Barley—English, 1,350 qrs.; Foreign, 1,300 qrs. Oats—English, 1,500 qrs.; Irish, 3,210 qrs.; Foreign, 7,040 qrs. Flour—English, 1,750 sacks.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1848.

SUMMARY.

"GENTLEMEN, make your game whilst the ball is rolling!" Such is the advice of our friend *Punch*, in his last political caricature, to the crowned heads of Europe—advice which seems to have had in it a pregnancy of meaning which nothing but subsequent events could have disclosed. Austria, too, even Austria, has been shaken by the vibration communicated by the French revolution. Metternich, obdurate to the very last, has brought down upon his head the storm which has been long brewing amongst a discontented people. There has been an insurrectionary movement in Vienna, and the aged Minister, for the last twenty-five years a dictator to the whole Germanic empire, the ruthless oppressor of Lombardy, the secret foe of a reforming Pope, the abettor of Neapolitan tyranny, the instigator of the Gallician massacre, the destroyer of the independence of Cracow, has fled for his life, no one knows whither, leaving his chateau to be sacked and burned by an infuriated mob. Truly even-handed justice is dealing out retribution to all the tyrants of the continental world—handing the bitter cup to one after another, and compelling them, perforce, to drink to the very dregs the wine of their own unrighteousness. Again we are taught the insecurity of those thrones which are based exclusively upon physical force. The army of Austria could not save Metternich; and if reports be true—about which, however, we entertain considerable doubt—the seat and centre of despotism has become converted into a republic. Certain it is, however, that liberty of the press and a burgher guard have been wrung from the Emperor, and that an improved system of national representation has been conceded to the popular demand.

"Make your game, gentlemen, while the ball is rolling." Prussia, too, totters beneath the fury of the gale. Berlin has been the scene of a conflict between the people and the troops. Authentic intelligence tells us of concessions already made, of the abolition of the censorship, and the immediate convocation of the Diet; but on the heels of this intelligence rumour comes, with winged speed, bearing information still more important—a sanguinary conflict between the people and the troops, the abdication of the King, and his flight, first to Spandau, and afterwards in the direction of Vienna. Rumour may be correct, or not; but assuredly the fact that such things are announced indicate the fervid state of excitement with which the bosom of Europe now heaves.

"Make your game, gentlemen, whilst the ball is rolling." From every petty principality in Germany reform has been demanded, more or less; and when we say that the King of Hanover himself has quailed, we need hardly describe the result in other states. Everywhere the thick-ribbed ice which covered the surface of society, keeping down intelligence by brute force, and checking all aspirations for freedom, is breaking up and disappearing as if by magic. Our anticipations have not been belied. It is scarcely six weeks since we hailed the tokens of advancing spring, and lo! what seemed then but an unlikely dream has been more than realized. Louis Philippe gone, and the arch of despotism falls to pieces with its own weight. Why, we shall not be surprised to hear tidings from St. Petersburg ere long, and possibly a few more posts may bring us intelligence of the abdication and flight of the Emperor Nicholas. These are eventful times in which to have one's destiny cast. It becomes every man to play his part so as best to commend the truths which he has received. All injustice seems to be recoiling upon its perpetrators, and the rights of man are asserting themselves in every country with triumphant success.

Even Turkey owns the powerful influence of reason and of justice; and by an imperial edict, Protestantism has been legalized in the Sultan's dominions. The concession was secured by the energetic labours of Lord Cowley, and in substance, is as complete and satisfactory as such a document could have been desired.

In the face, however, of all these great changes, our Whig Government, supported by an immense majority of the House of Commons, made up of pseudo-liberals, Peelites, and Protectionists, ad-

heres with wonderful tenacity to the high scale of expenditure which it originally proposed, and, through the medium of Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston, ventures to talk in sneering language of every proposal for lightening the burdens of the people. The discussions on the extension of the income tax to Ireland on Friday night, and on the navy estimates on Monday night, with the divisions by which they were terminated, are pregnant with instruction to the people of these realms. On the first occasion, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who did not venture into the field till towards the close of the debate, delivered a speech which, for entire absence of argument, obvious incapacity, and naked substitution of arbitrary will for enlightened reason, is certainly without parallel in the records of the present Parliament. On the last-mentioned occasion, Mr. Ward, Secretary to the Admiralty, positively gloried in the increase of our naval estimates, but failed to adduce any satisfactory reason save the tame and unquestionable subserviency of former Houses of Commons for this continually augmenting drain upon our national resources. It is clear, however, from the tone of the debate, that the aristocracy either feel or feign alarm at the momentous changes taking place throughout the continent of Europe; and, although the people in general will see in them an additional reason for laughing at the bugbear of invasion, inasmuch as when nations are busy with their own affairs, they have no leisure to plan aggressions upon their neighbours, those who have the power, and who enjoy the spoils, pretend to find in the present unsettled state of affairs sufficient reason for keeping up, and even extending, our present overgrown protective establishments. Mr. Cobden is worthy of high praise for the moral courage which he displayed in assailing, with his strong common-sense, those official maxims under which Englishmen have permitted themselves so long to be cheated into a patient disbursement. He laid bare the trick to which we have more than once adverted, of powers on each side of the water increasing their armaments on the shallow pretext of putting themselves upon a fair level of strength with each other. He charged Ministers home with the insincerity of their pacific professions, when they had never once attempted, by diplomacy, to obtain consent from the nations of Europe, to a large proportionate reduction of their respective forces. His speech will tell with the country, however it may have failed to convince the House of Commons. In vain did Lord Palmerston launch at the hon. member for the West Riding the polished shafts of his sarcasm, and in vain did professional men of both parties attempt to throw discredit upon his former statements; the secret of their enmity was well alluded to by Mr. Bright, when he reminded the House that some 150 of its members were interested in the continuance of the present war establishments of the country. The division, however, is one of the most powerful rebukes that could be administered to our aristocratic constituencies. They sent the men to Parliament who now fasten this yoke about their necks. They have none to blame but themselves, and they will have to suffer for some time yet to come the consequences of their own folly.

The other matters that have come under notice, although in quieter times they might have tempted us to make some remarks, will scarcely in these days of excitement be thought worthy of comment. Our readers who wish to take a bird's-eye view of all that has passed, we must refer to our columns of parliamentary intelligence.

The mob-riots, which a few days since disturbed the public peace, have been succeeded by numerous and peaceful meetings of the working classes, in various parts of the country, to advocate their just rights. Wherever the public authorities have showed a becoming confidence in the peaceful disposition of the people, that confidence has not been misplaced. In some instances, however, we regret to observe, absurd and arbitrary attempts have been made, on the part of local authorities, to prevent the right of public meeting for the discussion of grievances being exercised; in others, there have been most expensive and unnecessary displays of physical force. Such conduct as this deserves the severest reprobation by every friend of order and freedom. It tends to excite feelings of exasperation amongst the people, at a time when it is most desirable to promote conciliation. Nothing is more likely to lead to outbreaks than such illegal and ill-judged attempts to interfere with the liberty of the subject. There never can be any cordial union between the middle and labouring classes for the redress of common grievances, so long as the former treat the latter with suspicion and distrust.

TOO TIGHT! TOO TIGHT!

AHA! Is it come to this? Are we to be jeered at, as well as needlessly burdened? Cannot our shepherds be content with taking the fleece, without laughing at our cries under the shears? What! and is the aristocracy, in very truth, so

strong as to render common civility needless? Can a large Parliamentary majority afford to set up a few votes against the voice of the country, and to banter the millions upon their helplessness? Aha! Is it come to this? Why, then, the end is not very far off. Just so did the well-bribed myrmidons of Guizot act previously to the sudden overthrow of their power. They became insolent as well as oppressive—and where are they now? Where is their system? Where the compact power they exulted in wielding? Where their effrontery? It were well if our ruling class could comprehend the moral of their history.

No diminution of expenditure—no modification of the income-tax—no equalization of the burdens borne respectively by Great Britain and Ireland—no disannulling of resolutions for increased armaments, naval or military, notwithstanding change of circumstances! Lord John gives us instead his cold, haughty, self-satisfied sneer—Sir Charles Wood utters his dogged negative, from sheer incompetency to set it off by a semblance of reason—Lord Palmerston throws about him elegant sparks of raillery to give brilliancy to dry, musty, worn-out official maxims. The small fry of the House of Commons talk big words, and attempt to bully the men of the people into a hasty retreat—military men do homage to their own high characters, magnify their own services, and disinterestedly vote their own continued employment and pay. And all this they do, under a seeming impression, that the public do not see through the imposing sham, and take it all for what it looks to be.

Are these men mad? Have they felt the pulse of the public of late? Does no ray of reason reach their minds? No echo of popular opinion fall upon their ears? What! do they not know that Louis Philippe is at Claremont instead of the Tuileries? Can they be ignorant of the change which has swept over all the petty states of Germany? Has not Metternich, supposed to have been an immovable fixture, fled in haste, and left his master in the hands of his subjects? Are there not prompt concessions at Berlin? Why, European despotism is in the agonies of dissolution, and everywhere man is rising to claim his rights, and, we trust, worthily to employ them. And is this the fitting moment for pinioning liberty in England with red-tape, and setting official pertinacity, and official insolence against the demands, ay! the just and reasonable demands, of an entire people? Have a care, gentlemen! Have a care! Englishmen can put you down without resorting to the violence of an insurrection. They are forbearing, but their patience has limits. They can endure much, but woe be to him who jeers at them! As surely as change is abroad in the earth, so surely will your turn come round—and when it does, the cold-blooded pertinacity, edged with insult, which has been displayed during the past fortnight in reference to taxation, will not be forgotten.

Well! an immense majority of our representatives have fixed upon us, for three years longer, the income-tax, with all its inequalities. Whose fault is it? Whose, but that of lord-loving constituencies? Cobden is right in saying that the class in whose hands is the franchise, are more to blame than the Prime Minister. Our political snobs have done the mischief—men of aristocratic yearnings, and of easy consciences, who have fought for party with as much zeal as they could have done had they fought for truth, and who maligned and calumniated the few who dared to remind them that "men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles." Who, now, are the faithful minority found voting with Hume, Horsman, and Hall? Why just the very men whose numbers would have been fourfold if the policy we recommended at the last general election had not been rejected by confiding Liberals as little better than insane. Did we not insist upon it that there remained no essential difference between Whig and Tory—that both were enemies of progress—and that neither were entitled to represent the advanced opinions of the age? The mischief, however, is done. We refer to the past only with a view to the future. Delighted should we be if we could see reason for believing that the electors who now deplore their late mistake, will go and sin no more.

It becomes, however, the class who now writhe in helpless indignation in the grasp of Lord John Russell and a tax-consuming majority, to bear in mind that what they now suffer, in oppression, humiliation, and insult, their poorer brethren have long suffered without having elicited much commiseration. We need but to do justice in order to have it. The shameful and augmenting expenditure of national resources—the growing prodigality, extravagance, and insolence of the ruling class, whether Whig or Tory—would not be tolerated a single day, would not even be attempted, under a fair representation of the whole people. The middle classes, having made their bed in injustice, are now compelled to lie down in it. But the remedy is in their own hands. Whenever they can dare to give to others what they claim for themselves, they can upset any Ministry, and over-

turn any system from which reason is excluded. Let them, as they ought to have done long since, make common cause with the disfranchised millions, and help them to obtain peaceful possession of their rights. Some extension of the suffrage they all admit to be imperatively demanded; and no extension of it which is not complete and final stands a chance of being carried, or, if carried, of proving satisfactory. There is no reason why we should thus be ground down under a proud and selfish aristocracy—no reason which a little moral courage might not instantly blow to atoms. We are the victims of our own prejudice—

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

The times are auspicious for a sincere movement in this direction. The necessity for it is urgent. If, when thrones are toppling around us, and all the barriers to human progress are giving way, our Legislature is disposed to increase our burdens, and to laugh at our dissatisfaction, what hope have we for the future from their sense of decency, or their prudent moderation? It is plain that they suppose us perfectly manageable under any excitement of our indignation. It is possible, however, that they may find out their mistake when they cannot rectify it, and that Lord John may learn, as others have done, that it is equally dangerous to exclusive pretensions to hold the reins with too tight a hand, as to suffer them to hang negligently upon the neck of public opinion. But it will not be the first time that men's eyes have been holden in order to insure their own downfall.

JUSTICE PREVENTS REVOLUTIONS.

THE querulous refer to revolutions the evils caused by former errors. Revolutions are effects of previous misgovernment: they are those total changes occasioned by the indifference of the well-to-do to the situation of the less thriving; they result from the indifference of the "have-somethings" to the misery of the "have-nothings." Thus, in Ireland the people have been left by the landlords, mostly lawmakers, to live upon potatoes—then to get to the lowest grade of potatoes, lumpers—to herd with pigs in mud cabins, and to suffer annually recurring famines; and yet, socially degraded, and thus demoralized, the landlords—themselves of the class of lawmakers—left them in that state of degradation, and continued to enforce laws depriving them of their lives and liberty, for not respecting the rights of property. Such a system, continued for generations, necessarily alienates those who have no possessions, and suffer from starvation, from those who have full rations. If the sufferers are ignorant, it produces vindictiveness and violence; if moderately educated, discontent and aversion.

In England, the same process is going on which has reduced Ireland to her present state; and that course which has reduced the people of Ireland, generally, to ignorance, some to apathy and despair, and others to vindictiveness and violence, is fast growing in England, and we shall have, in the end, if our legislators persevere in a system of indirect and unjust taxation, the same dreadful consequences; manifested, perhaps, in a different mode, because the race is not so sudden and quick, and is better educated. Lord John is still, at heart, "Finality John": he has withdrawn the word—for until he did so he could not have regained and retained office—but he desires still to keep the people where they were, and to preserve an old system in a new state of the social mind. If he does not desire, like "Young England," to carry the people back to reverence the 'squire of the parish, and play a game of cricket with the lordlings, as the sum of reform, he does desire to check the onward progress, to preserve inequality of taxation, and make the poor and the middle classes pay, as they now do pay, nineteen-twentieths of the interest of the national debt, and of the taxes.

Revolutions are not the causes of their antecedents, and yet the oscillating leaders of the *Times*, in their alternations of praising and sneering, deal with them as if they were their own parents, and visit the sins of the old government upon the new. They are the results of errors persisted in, and of necessary changes deferred. Every wise and good, and particularly every religious, man should, in his circle, advocate direct taxation and the removal of every injustice. "Justice deferred maketh the soul bitter," and throws upon our children and our children's children, in the next generation, our sins of omission. A sluggard in this respect—that is, he who omits to urge the duty of political justice in his own circle—is a sinner next in degree to a lazy man who does not exert himself to maintain his family. We scorn the latter, and the former is almost as worthy of it if he has the knowledge. Many religious men are peculiarly liable to censure in this respect; they forget that immortal souls will rise in a future state of being with only the knowledge they possess in the present state of preparation; that injustice, oppression, and ignorance, prevent the growth of the mind, and not only prevent the germination of good seed, but encourage the growth of tares; and violence, revenge, wars, and

bloodshed are the results of feeding the criminal desires without cultivating the mental qualities. It is of such uncultivated physical organizations that soldiers are made in England. Up, then, and be doing: speak, do, and enlighten the people in your several circles—teach them that national retrogression is the result of individual apathy. This is particularly the duty of religious men; and those who take Jesus and the apostles as their guides should be "instant in season and out of season." Whenever an opportunity presents, let your circle see that your religion is active, and that you sympathize with what promotes their happiness. The idle and the indifferent will sneer, but they will yield; they only wait till the ice is broken, and as soon as it begins to disperse, they will follow. We have recently seen this tendency in an apparently apathetic district near London. It is studded with the houses of retired or well-to-do tradesmen, and with the seats of others still more wealthy. With the exception of one public meeting called, and supplied with a lecturer, by the Anti-corn-law League, a public movement in the district is not known to have been held. The well-to-do came out in the evening to enjoy their seats in the fresh air, and the poor—of whom there are, as in every other place, many—were left entirely neglected. In politics and social polity they were left to suffer under the errors of legislation and unequal taxation; and those who were better off, whose duty it was to instruct and induce them to take an interest in the public welfare, and in the social condition of the country, had they manifested any ignorant upheaving, would have been among the first to regret their ignorance, and condemn their mode of manifesting it. Nothing is done in the district to educate the young men of the neighbourhood. The education which is, though in a partial degree, supplied by national schools and the Dissenters, is limited to imparting the elements of knowledge to the boys, forgetting that the youths and young men who are growing up around them are marrying in ignorance, and rearing their children, of necessity, in the same state. The recent revolution in France induced one or two gentlemen to call a meeting, by a printed circular, and when they were together, they found that all were desirous that something should be done; but the well-to-do were without organization, did not know each other, and from never having moved, none liked to take the initiative; but as soon as that was taken they found that they had power enough among themselves, a willing auditory in their own neighbourhood, and that all that was needed was to come together, and make each known to the other. If we would avoid a revolution in England, the middle classes must make themselves known to those below them—they must infuse knowledge, and endeavour to level upwards. Discussions and lectures are the safety-valves of the State; and a timely yielding to just demands, as the mind of society enlarges, is the way to preserve peace in a nation, and promote the happiness of the people.

A NEW MINISTRY.—The *Liverpool Mercury* of Friday says:—On Monday week, after the obstinacy of Ministers had become manifest, the Cabinet was spoken of on Change as a merely "Provisional Government." The unpopularity of Sir Charles Wood and others is daily and openly remarked upon; and yesterday we saw the list of a new Ministry which had been sketched in London, in consequence of continued rumours of a forthcoming change in Downing-street. The first runs as follows, and shows a considerable reduction in the number, and consequently the expense, of an administration:—

Lord President of the Council and First Lord of the Treasury, the Earl of Clarendon.
Foreign Secretary, Hon. C. P. Villiers.
Colonial Secretary, Mr. Hawes.
Home Secretary, Mr. H. G. Ward.
Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. James Wilson.
President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Cobden.
Vice-President, Lord Duncan.
Secretary-at-War, Mr. Horsman.
First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Kinnaird.
Secretary to the Admiralty, Mr. Hume.
Postmaster-General, Mr. Rowland Hill.
Lord Privy Seal, office abolished.
Master of the Buckhounds, office abolished.
Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, Lord Morpeth.
These would be a better set of Ministers than the country has ever known in any era of history.

MR. CARDWELL AND THE INCOME-TAX.—We understand that the requisition to Mr. Cardwell to vacate his seat was closed on Tuesday evening, having been before the public 40 hours, within which time 7,545 persons have attached their names to it. But, in consequence of a few ratepayers, who are not electors, having signed, the committee have decided on submitting the requisition to a strict scrutiny.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

PARLIAMENTARY ENFRANCHISEMENT OF STALYBRIDGE.—A memorial to Lord John Russell, praying him to bring a bill into Parliament to confer the privilege of electing a member to serve this town in Parliament, and a petition to the House of Commons, which were agreed to at a public meeting a short time ago, are in course of signature, and have now received nearly 2,000 names, including several of the largest and most influential manufacturers and tradesmen of all parties.—*Manchester Courier*.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC—PARIS— THE PEACE DEPUTATION.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, MARCH 14th, 1848.

I regret that unlooked for circumstances have prevented until now, my fulfilment of the engagement I made previously to my departure from England, to give your readers an account of what might pass under my notice during my stay in Paris. It is not to be supposed that in little less than a week, one would be able to penetrate far beneath the surface of society, or to discover any of the hidden springs by which movements here are for the moment regulated. But it may be interesting, nevertheless, to your readers to have a brief narrative, from the pen of an eye witness, of facts which have either been slurred over, or suppressed by the daily journals. I need hardly, therefore, apologize for throwing my remarks into the form of gossip.

I started, as you are aware, on Wednesday night, half-past eight, from the London-bridge station, for Dover, and went on board the Boulogne packet, about half-past eleven. Pitch darkness, heavy rain, and a gale of wind, will describe the weather. Happily, our passage did not exceed three hours—but they were anything but short, or agreeable ones. No standing on deck unless with first-rate sea legs, and a skin impervious to water—no comfort below in a cabin crowded with passengers all of whom evinced distress in the rolling of the vessel. Thankful enough was I when the steward informed me that we had entered the Boulogne harbour. Although without a passport I managed to get on immediately so as to join the mail train at Neufchâtel, about seven miles from Boulogne—not, however, without a variation of discomfort. The cab which I hired to take me to the railroad I soon found to be without windows. The cushions of it were soaked with rain, and with all the ingenuity I could exercise, I could not put myself into a corner in which tolerable protection from wind and wet could be enjoyed. I had, however, to pay enormously for my haste.

Once in the train, I felt myself once more at ease. I overtook my fellow travellers at Amiens, and we reached Paris about eleven o'clock on Thursday morning. Before our arrival signs of the recent disturbances became visible. Two or three station-houses gutted and charred by fire, fences broken up, electric telegraph cut off, and things of the like order, told a tale of revolutionary violence. From the Paris station to the Hotel, these signs became more frequent. The rough state of the pavement at the corner of every street indicated the recency of barricades—and the words *Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité*, already painted in conspicuous letters upon every public building that we passed, showed on which side victory had proclaimed itself. Here, then, were we, within a fortnight, in the heart of a city which had upset a dynasty, and expelled a monarch, to commend to a brave people the doctrine of peace, and to congratulate them upon their subversion of tyranny. All was as tranquil as ever—the streets quiet—the shops open—the people looking, some gay, some busy—and but for the appearance here and there of a national guard in a dirty blouse, with any bearing rather than a military one, no person could have read in the aspect of the people a single trace of the eventful past.

I visited most of the scenes of the late conflict. It is surprising how little mischief has been done. The damage inflicted upon the exterior of the Tuilleries and Palais Royal is chiefly such as the glazier can repair. The guard-house opposite the latter is burnt, and nothing but the stone walls, starred all over with bullets, remains standing. On the Boulevards the stumps of many fine trees, felled for barricades, made us regret that some ornaments of Paris have been destroyed which it will take many long years to replace. Lamp-posts seem, in most of the great thoroughfares, to have been wrenched from the perpendicular—seats and benches to have been torn up. I was informed that very much of the mischief was done in sport by lads and boys. Beyond this, however, and the destruction of the furniture of the Tuilleries and Palais Royal, property has been magnanimously respected. There was no pillage—scarcely a theft. Indeed, the Parisian mob has exhibited some features of true greatness. A gentleman informed me that, on the critical Thursday, he saw a crowd round the door of a jeweller in one of the principal streets. They were seeking arms. They had knocked at the door without effect. They burst it open. The inmates had fled. A large assortment of valuable jewellery was in the window and on the counters. The absence of the proprietor was no sooner ascertained than a lad, in blouse, with a drawn sabre in his hand, advanced to the door from the middle of the crowd, and said, "Gentlemen, respect the property of the citizens." At that door he kept guard for several hours, until the master of the house returned. Not an article was missing. This is but one fact, but it is a fair sample, I am told, of hundreds that could be narrated.

Saturday, half-past three o'clock, was the time appointed by the Provisional Government for the reception of the deputation. General A. Condorcet O'Connor, a veteran Republican, upwards of eighty years of age,

consented to accompany us, for the purpose of facilitating our progress, interpreting our sentiments, and otherwise aiding us in the execution of our trust. We started about three o'clock for the Hôtel de Ville, in two carriages—Messrs. O'Connor, Sturge, and Alexander in the first—Messrs. Bradshaw, Norris, and Miall in the second. The Place before the Hotel was occupied by crowds of loiterers and *ouvriers*, who, however, courteously made way for us. As we ascended the grand staircase, we saw some signs of republican simplicity which some of our aristocrats might have looked upon with a sneer. On the first landing stood a national guard, with his musket shouldered and his bayonet fixed, in the dress of a workman—a tarnished smock-frock, a "shocking bad hat," and face and hands quite innocent of soap and water. On the top landing were some others in uniform, playing cards, and actually smoking. The first ante-chamber was crowded. Two or three separate deputations, and amongst them that of the English residents, were there, waiting their turn for admission to the presence of the Provisional Government. As a mark of distinction, however, we were taken first. The folding-doors were thrown open, and the residents and ourselves entered a second ante-chamber—then, other doors were opened, and we passed into an apartment, gorgeously furnished, in which stood the Ministry. I recognised Lamartine instantly. He has the stamp of the poet on his countenance—and his air is that of a perfect gentleman. Cremieux was there, but he soon retired to another part of the chamber. Louis Blanc struck one as a boy—he is very short of stature, and juvenile in his countenance. Marast, Mayor of Paris, was present; and Flocon. After salutation, General O'Connor explained the circumstances out of which had arisen this visit of congratulation. By the request of Lamartine, Mr. Joseph Sturge read, with emphasis, the address which you have already inserted. I watched its effect upon Lamartine and Marast. Both seemed to understand it well, to catch its points, and to appreciate its spirit. They were evidently much gratified. At the conclusion of the reading, Lamartine addressed us in French. The fluency of his language and the grace of his oratory greatly struck me. You will have already inserted a translation of his speech, so that I need not give it here. So far as one could judge from the manner, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs was quite in earnest; and peace with England appears to be an object with him of sincere desire. I was not surprised at this, so far as he is concerned. His wife is an English lady, and he has many sympathies with England. But I did not anticipate from Marast, the late editor of the *National*, so marked a concurrence in pacific sentiments. His eyes glistened at some parts of the address, and he nodded approval so apparently sincere and pleasurable that I would fain hope his anti-Anglican furor has vanished for ever. I was sorry to notice that all the Ministers, but especially Lamartine, looked worn and jaded with incessant work.

We had some conversation with other gentlemen during our stay—Messrs. Sturge and Alexander, with M. Arago, Minister of Marine, who told them that the moment he heard of the recognition of the republic by the British Government, he countermanded all the orders he had given for increasing the naval armaments of the country. M. Passy and M. Isambert, too, called upon us—the first somewhat desponding, the last hopeful. M. Passy, however, admitted that the five or six millions of small land proprietors will make as honest a constituency as any in the world.

I will now, in brief, give you my view of the state of things in France. Much is to be hoped—something to be feared. The bulk of society is conservatively inclined—that is, they acquiesce in a change which they would not have sought, desire the maintenance of peace, and will make no little sacrifice for the restoration of order. Just at present it strikes me that the moving power is that of a small minority, is Parisian rather than French, and is more closely allied with the mob than the people. Such is one of the immediate penalties a country has always to pay for accomplishing political changes by physical force. I am, however, sanguine in my expectation, that, despite the dictatorial violence of M. Ledru Rollin, and the absurd schemes of Louis Blanc, a National Assembly will be returned, such as will give supremacy to the wiser and more conciliating policy of Lamartine and Arago. There seems to be little doubt that the vast majority of members will be sincere Republicans—as little, that they will dispense with the services of some of the almost unknown, but violent men, who have smuggled themselves into prominent posts in connexion with the Provisional Government. Paris will probably have to pass through many crises of uneasiness before affairs settle down into a permanent state—but everything, I think, indicates that the restoration of royalty is the most unlikely of all events which can be hidden in the lap of the future.

Many people appear to be alarmed lest the scenes of the first French Revolution should be repeated—and our daily organs are continually pointing their suspicions that way. I do not believe it probable. France was then chafed into madness by foreign intervention. It warred, too, against an overbearing and grinding aristocracy, and an intolerant and most oppressive church. No foreign power is likely to inter-

meddle with its affairs just now—all are too much occupied at home. There is no aristocracy to cast off—no established church to humble. The working class may cause some disquiet—but the more intelligent section of them will soon see through the fallacy of theories which serve only to kill the goose that lays golden eggs. That they are, in the main, honest, forbearing, magnanimous, has been seen—and, but for their expulsion of English fellow-labourers, we could render an unqualified tribute of admiration to the spirit they have displayed, much as we deplore the mistakes into which they have been seduced.

On the whole, then, I am hopeful. The times have advanced. Spring has burst upon Europe somewhat sooner than, a few weeks back, I had anticipated. Every lover of human progress will pray for the success of the great experiment now going on across the Straits. It will put forward the clock of the world by many degrees. For myself, I am a firm believer in the onward destiny of nations. But if I had no other reason for wishing well to France, my hurried visit to this capital would have engaged my warmest wishes on her behalf. I came unexpectedly—I leave with some regret—and during the interval I have seen enough to awaken in me the liveliest interest in the people of this great republic. May they realize the full meaning of their glorious motto, "*Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité*!"

E. M.

SPRIT OF THE PRESS.

THE LINGERING PLEA FOR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

(From the *Spectator*.)

With many other judicious persons, Sir George Grey cannot reconcile his mind to the idea of giving up an old tradition which demands capital punishment for murder.

Some adhere to the death-punishment law on Scriptural authority, pleading direct decrees from the Old Testament: but to justify the reference to that authority as unrepealed, it would be necessary to execute capital punishment for other offences besides murder, and in other modes besides hanging. It might be asked whether a man should now be put to death for cursing his father and mother, stoned for blasphemy or Sabbath-breaking?

Other persons adhere to the capital punishment for murder on impulse of mere prejudice or habit; and it is to be observed that Sir George Grey offers no reason in support of the assumption that it could not safely be relinquished. The only semblance of an argument which he employs is the trite array of figures, to show that commitments and convictions for certain crimes no longer "capital" have increased rather than diminished: a sort of statistical computation which no more proves the greater prevalence of the crime than the number of patients in the London hospitals proves a peculiar unhealthiness; in either case, probably, there is only a more efficient vigilance over crime or disease.

But if Sir George Grey—we take him only as the official representative of that opinion which still prevails in the Executive of the country—insists on enforcing the law of death for murder, it perplexes us to account for two recent cases of commutation.

The revenge of Annette Meyers was as distinctly "murder," in the legal sense of the word, as any act could possibly be. The presumed "insanity," under which it is extenuated by some evasive reasoners, rests on no shadow of evidence: it is impossible to imagine a more lucid intellectual conception of the deed, its provocation, manner, and consequences, than the girl had exhibited throughout. Indeed, the case constitutes a very remarkable aberration from received standards of right and wrong. According to set rule, Annette Meyers had forfeited her claim to exact fidelity from her paramour. She was unmistakably "immoral," in the technical application of the word, and her revenge was undeniably "murder." Yet the whole public raised a shout of indignation at the idea of sacrificing her, because that conduct which in others they call departure from virtue, in her they deemed a wrong suffered; and the "murder" which she committed they chose to view with leniency. We do not quarrel with this instinctive movement; we respect it: we only ask those who concur in it, what they wish to be the definition and law of murder? We understand well why the old rule was felt to be inapplicable to Meyers. Although her conduct had violated the rules of morals, her letters evinced so much womanly tenderness, so much generous sentiment, so strong a sense of justice and natural propriety, that the feelings of all were necessarily forced back to a law which overrides statutes and set rules—the impulse of sympathy with the primary instincts of human nature: from set forms of justice people were dashed back to the instinctive sense of justice, and compelled to admit that human contrivances fail to supersede natural laws, which are at once freer and more perfect in their operation. But none of the pleas in favour of Annette Meyers contravene the text of established laws against incontinence, or disturb the technical definition of "murder." There is nothing in her case which meets such pleas in favour of retaining capital punishment for murder as those which some gentlemen choose to shield from the assault of argument behind Scripture authority and popular prejudice; and yet the public instinct obliges them to set those pleas at naught.

The case of Mary Anne Hunt is yet more glaring as a violation of the settled doctrines on the subject. Hunt was convicted of a very sordid and wanton murder, and would certainly have been hanged, if it

had not been discovered that she was about to be a mother: she was respited until her child should be born; and then, according to the old practice, she would have been transferred from the accoucheur to the hangman. But to modern feelings so lengthened a prelude to hanging is too revolting, and it is felt that the original sentence cannot be executed: it is therefore commuted to transportation. So Hunt escapes condign punishment for murder, because she had also been guilty of incontinence. In this case there is not a single redeeming trait; not a particle of outraged feeling to extenuate her crime, as there was in the case of Parker, who was hanged a few days ago; not a shade of elevated sentiment to redeem her sin against morality, as there was in that of Meyers. She violated the law of murder, she violated the rules of moral conduct, without having one plea to extenuate her fault or her crime, but rather the accident which saved her arose from the complication of her misconduct.

These gross inconsistencies in practice do but reflect the existing inconsistencies of that heterogeneous mass of convictions, instincts, habits, and prejudices, called "public opinion." The public desires both to retain and abolish capital punishment: Mr. Ewart catches at the rising aspiration, Sir George Grey clings to the old habit of thought. The embarrassing difficulties, however, which beset the practice of retributive punishment generally, and capital punishment in particular, jar against old prejudices with increased force and frequency, and will break open a way for the progress of sounder doctrine. The advance might be more rapid if any quick-sighted statesman, possessing the opportunities of office, were to venture upon taking the lead: but that is not to be expected at present. Meanwhile, the promoters of the new opinion have every encouragement to persevere; and they cannot better serve their cause than by showing, at every instance, how rudely and mischievously the existing law works in practice, as well when it is not enforced as when it is.

"CONSISTENCY" OF LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

(From the *Manchester Times*.)

Lord John Russell has won golden opinions from all sorts of men. The main strength of the Whigs has been his "moral character." He has been the proclaimed model of consistency for politicians, and the purest of patriot Statesmen. We could never altogether comprehend the meaning or merit of these praises. We have paid some attention to his lordship's public career, but could never discern that he had any special claims to admiration on the score of consistency. He was always the pattern-card of the Whigs, pitted constantly against Peel, and made to yield political capital for his party by the contrast of assumed personal superiorities. It is astonishing how long a "cant cry" will last in the very face of facts which prove its falsehood. We doubt much whether Lord John Russell's assumed public character and qualities rest on any really higher basis than his aristocratic spirit and connexions, coupled with the fact of his having, as a party politician, undertaken the advocacy of representative reform, when it was the trump card for a Whig opposition. There is no one member of the House of Commons who has stood more unflinchingly by the bare letter of the Reform Bill, in opposition to its spirit, than Lord John Russell. During the fifteen years that have succeeded the passing of that measure he has not evinced the slightest disposition to recognise the advance of public intelligence or liberate the representation of the country from the multitude of vexatious abuses which have grown out of the conditions that clogged, and, to a great extent, frustrated the objects of the Reform Bill. He commenced his public career with a studied eulogy of the old borough-mongering British constitution as the perfection of representative Government. He was the advocate of monopoly and a vigorous defender of the corn-laws until a comparatively very recent period. Protection, as a principle, he originally defended in its most rigorous shape, as well as subsequently in the more modified form of a fixed duty. He has been as thorough an expediency politician as any member of the House of Commons, and has no right to claim any reputation for greater consistency than has suited the requirements of party interests, whether in power or out of it. Far too much reliance has been placed upon this presumed consistency of the Prime Minister. It is not to be found in his history—and recent events yield another most gross and glaring evidence of his total want of it.

No man more fiercely opposed the enactment of the income-tax in 1842 than Lord John Russell. In 1848, he proposed nearly to double it. In the recent debates he has attempted to refute the very arguments, from other lips, with which he himself opposed the proposition of Sir Robert Peel. The whole tenor of his speech on Monday night was a miserable piece of special pleading for an admitted injustice. No Tory Minister that ever lived could have more dexterously appealed to the spirit and prejudices of an aristocratic House of Commons. He is more at home with a Tory majority to back him than as the head and leader of the Liberal party.

The "masterly understanding of Mr. Pitt" was a much more fitting eulogy for his position, than "the acute and ingenious mind of Mr. Fox." Pitt was the model for a spendthrift and reckless Minister, and Lord John Russell aptly quoted his authority to sanction a course so repugnant to the principles of Fox. The quondam Minister of Retrenchment and Reform—after thirty years of peace, and more than fifteen years after the passing of the measure that was to give us cheap government—comes boldly be-

fore the House of Commons to propose an expenditure beyond that of any previous Ministry since the war. The whole revenue for the year preceding the Reform Bill amounted only to £46,000,000. This year the Minister of the Reform Bill tells us that our expenditure will exceed £54,000,000. Here is cheap government with a vengeance! And he tells us boldly that we need expect no reduction of expenditure. The "efficiency of the public service" is the phrase under which all manner of public extravagance is maintained and justified. The speech of Lord John Russell betrays throughout a haughty and aristocratic disregard of the sufferings and burdens of the people. The "strength of the empire," "her pride and glory," are stock phrases that cover altogether any consideration or concern for the worn and downcast industry at whose cost this glitter of false glory is to be maintained; and all this conventional slang—which has no real significance—which means nothing but an empty appeal to those school-boy associations that survive manhood only on the benches of the House of Commons—Lord John Russell pours forth in reply to certain "notions and speculations" which have been indulged in, by some members, with reference to the chances of reduction in the cost of our colonies. The Prime Minister—"he might be mistaken"—this of course sneeringly and by parenthesis—had always "considered our colonies as a part of the strength of this empire," and no "notions of economy and retrenchment" should induce him "to reduce any part of that strength." Now it is all very well for Ministers or imaginative members of Parliament to indulge their dreamy moments with the flattering self-deception that somehow or other they share the glory "of an empire on which the sun never sets," but humbler people, who cannot afford the cost of these ideal indulgences, naturally measure the real grandeur of our colonial dominion by what it yields and what it costs. We presume that Lord John Russell would not altogether object to this test, though it may be a little beneath a Prime Minister to make any inquiry into the facts. The value of our colonial possessions consists altogether in the profitable commercial intercourse between them and this country. In every other point of view they obviously absorb our resources, and so weaken, instead of adding to our power. What, then, is the cost of our colonies, and what is the amount of our commerce with them? Why, the entire value of British exports to the whole of our colonial establishments—not, of course, including India or China—does not much exceed TEN MILLIONS STERLING. On the other hand, the direct civil and military cost of our colonies alone—to say nothing of the other incidental charges of government—amounts to very little short of THREE MILLIONS AND A HALF. So that the cost of the officials and military forces needful to give outward and visible substance to the boasted "pride and glory" of our colonial empire, amounts to about forty per cent. of the whole value of our exports to these nurseries of commerce!! Is that profitable traffic? Is this annual waste of wealth calculated to elevate or depress us "in the scale of nations?" If this be the fact—and his lordship may prove it any day by a visit to the Board of Trade—what possible advantage can the British people derive from his lordship's determination not to economize our colonial expenditure? Our colonies are losing concerns—unless the balance-sheet can be squared by those very costly items of "pride and glory," which are the only values we get in exchange. It is lamentable to read such inflated verbiage from the lips of a Prime Minister for this commercial country. His speech is a tissue of *justian* and fallacy throughout. Lord John Russell can now find no substitutes for an unjust income-tax. In 1842 Lord John Russell proposed to meet the deficiency in the revenue by substituting for the income-tax an equalization of the probate and legacy duties. Let Mr. Bright remember this when he moves for the application of these duties to real as well as personal estate. There is not a member of the present Government who did not make a national grievance of the inequalities of the income-tax in 1842. There is not a man amongst them who does not defend, or vote, for the very same measure in 1848. Talk of the consistency of public men! What respect for, or faith in, the avowed statesmen of the country can long exist in the face of such facts? Lord John Russell has no more political character or consistency than Sir Robert Peel. They are both the statesmen of a mean and temporizing policy. "Arcades ambo et cantare pares."

THE GOVERNMENT, THE INCOME-TAX, AND THE PUBLIC PRESS.

The *Leeds Times* thus winds up an article on "A Government Swindle:"—

The Whigs, by their policy, are hastening changes of which they have little conception. They are exposing the aristocratic influence, which eats like a canker into the very core of legislation. They are combining the working and middle classes in hostility to the landed interest by showing them that the predominance of that interest in the national councils is fatal to sound legislation, and incompatible with the welfare of the country. The consequences may be such as they little dream of.

The *Preston Guardian* is "disappointed, nay, disgusted, with the Ministerial budget."

The *Jersey Christian Record* advises union between the middle and working classes:—

The middle classes have interests in common; and if they took a right view of things, they would see that every motive of reason, justice, and policy, invites them to coalesce with the working classes. Then once united, and being united, put in motion, there would be a speedy end to the reign of ecclesiastical and aristocratical tyranny. A long course of profligate extravagance has ended, as such courses always must end, in a frightful excess of expenditure over revenue. The income and the outlay must be equalized; and, of course, the only

way of effecting this which either Lord John Russell or Sir Robert Peel can think of is, by raising the income to a level with the expenditure, and not by lowering the one down to the other. The people demand economy and retrenchment; but they are audaciously told that economy has been carried to the utmost possible limits, that retrenchment is utterly impossible, nay, more, that an increase of expense is absolutely necessary, unless we would starve our establishments, expose ourselves to foreign invasion, and for ever ruin the greatness of our empire. Will the people of England be befooled by this impertinent twaddle? We trust not. We hope that, by this time, they understand too well that "starving our establishments" is only a fine name for making provision for the younger branches of the aristocracy at the people's expense; that foreign invasion is an *ignis fatuus*; and that the greatness of an empire is not to be maintained by augmenting the public debt and impoverishing the nation.

The *Norfolk News* predicts another Reform Bill:—

Class legislation is checkmated; the pawns are too many, and too strongly placed, for the knights, the castles, the bishops, and the queen. The losers may not be aware of their desperate predicament, but it is not the less desperate on that account. A brief period will suffice to reveal the state of the game. Meetings, largely attended and conducted in an orderly manner, but composed of men elated with enthusiasm, and conscious no less of the justice of their cause than of the certainty of success, have already been held, in order to demand an absolute equality of political privileges. These meetings are, of course, but the prelude to others still larger, still more enthusiastic, still more resolute. Their petition will be rejected of course by the Legislature: who does not foresee the consequences? The refusal will only beget fresh meetings and redoubled zeal. In great crises—and this is one—opposition only adds new fuel to the flame of agitation. The country will be in a blaze, growing daily higher and hotter, until at length it will be thought prudent to yield to clamour what had been refused to the claims of equity. The scenes and the concessions of 1831 will be renewed on a grander scale, and her Majesty will, for the first time, preside over a people's House of Commons.

The *Liverpool Mercury*, in an article headed "Consummation of the Income Fraud," recommends renewed agitation:—

The country is now in possession of the *ultimatum* of Ministers and ex-Ministers, and their Parliamentary followers, on the subject of the income-tax. All those parties agreed that it is, in its present form, quite a model tax—unequal and unjust, doubtless, but not more so than every description and variety of taxation. We have the assurance of Lord John Russell that he and his Chancellor have made every attempt to render the tax more fair, but they have found it, if not as nearly perfect as the limited nature of human faculty would admit of, still so bad that any attempt to mend it must make it worse. If the public do not acquiesce in this view, they must bestir themselves. To any out-of-doors agitation we have a painful aversion. It was our hope and belief that the principles of commercial freedom and equitable taxation having been once definitively affirmed by the legislature, future Governments might be trusted to carry them out gradually to their full and legitimate results, and that the termination of the seven years' anti-corn-law war would introduce a settled peace. But the declarations of Sir R. Peel and Lord John Russell convince us of the too sanguine character of our anticipations. The time, we fear, has not yet come when Governments will quietly set themselves to the work of financial and fiscal reform without the stimulus of a popular racket. Agitation for justice is an evil; but tame acquiescence in injustice is a greater evil. Rather the hurricane than the pestilence. Our oligarchs are forcing questions on the public mind, of which the ultimate solution will be anything but satisfactory to the aristocracy.

"Playing with Fire" is the title of an article in the *Notts Review*, which concludes as follows:—

Joseph Hume has indeed been defeated! The hangers-on of the army, the prejudices of the Cabinet, and the ambitions of the Court, have achieved a temporary triumph! All this is true, and let Lord John and his supporters make the most of it,—but the nation is not daunted, energy has not left its will, nor courage its heart! No; the people are more resolute than ever—the cry for economy is louder—the masses, whether monied or working, more united. The triumph of the Ministry is celebrated on the brink of a social volcano, and the time is not far distant when the only alternative for them will be humble concession, or ignominious downfall.

The *Scottish Press* declares:—

From the Whigs we have nothing to hope. They are utterly unfit for the emergency which is likely to arise. We want men animated by the spirit and principles of Milton, and Pym, and Hampden. It is obvious that this spirit and these principles are not to be found among the aristocracy. They have been diffused widely, however, among the middle classes, who are determined to make progress.

The *Hull Advertiser* ends a long article on the income-tax as follows:—

We are certainly very greatly pained and disappointed by the course taken by Lord John Russell upon this question. His Lordship may rely upon it that he is destroying the influence of his best supporters in the country. Manchester is loudly demanding the resignation of Mr. Milner Gibson—Sheffield is indignant at the tergiversations of Mr. Ward—and the independent electors of the Tower Hamlets look with contempt upon that worn-out Whig hack, Sir William Clay. A Minister should not thus recklessly sport with the popularity of the representatives of large constituencies.

Speaking of the hon. member for the West Riding, the *Newcastle Guardian* says:—

Richard Cobden is earning for himself new laurels by the good service he is doing in this cause. It may suit aristocrats of every grade to sneer at him, but the good sense of England sympathizes with the "Manchester manufacturer," and success must ultimately be with him. He carries with him a greater amount of popular support even than in his last agitation, and he brings to this all the *clat* derived from the past. Men are beginning to awake to a sense of the delusions that have been practised upon them, and submission is not much

longer possible. Reform is now only a question of time. He will be the wisest statesman who shall anticipate popular demand, and who, disregarding all party connexion, and devoting himself to the service of his country, shall earn a place in the grateful recollections of the people by works of useful, liberal, and enlightened improvement, suited to our country and our age.

The *Manchester Examiner* speaks thus of Ministerial incapacity:—

That the Premier and Sir Charles Wood are utterly destitute of those qualities which are absolutely necessary for the proper management of our national affairs. Most of their friends have long suspected that such was the case, but the miserable Budget, and the wretched manner in which Ministers have defended it, place the matter beyond all doubt. The truth is, that but for the fears entertained by many members lest a change of Ministry should give rise to a public agitation which they are unwilling to encounter, the present Administration would speedily be thrust from office for sheer incapacity.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

THE HARWICH ELECTION.

On Wednesday, Mr. Bagge renewed his motion for the issue of a new writ for this borough; the report being now in the hands of Members.

Mr. BLACKSTONE renewed his opposition; on the ground that, in so gross a case, the House should have the evidence which the Committee had heard, as well as their report.

Sir GEORGE GREY supported the motion for a new writ. The report stated that but one man had been clearly bribed at the last election, though numbers more had received sums which it was not possible to trace to the agency of any candidate. The report made no suggestions on the ground of extensive or systematic bribery, and there was therefore no occasion to proceed in the direction of disfranchising the borough.

The debate was animated, but desultory. Several Members on both sides of the House supported the delay of the writ—Lord PALMERSTON among them: few supported the immediate issue. Mr. ELLIOT, one of the Committee—afterwards corroborated by Mr. STUART WORTLEY—averred that a full and searching inquiry had been made. The very general allegations of the petitioners had failed. There had nothing come before the Committee which of itself would justify disfranchisement.

Mr. ROCHE said, if the borough were disfranchised, he should put in a claim for Ireland [great laughter, and cries of "Kinsale!"] It was no laughing matter. Corrupt government had smothered the voice of the people in France, and produced the revolution.

At one time the discussion became personal. Mr. MOWATT accused Sir George Grey of sanctioning corruption. Sir GEORGE GREY threw himself upon the House. The House had anticipated his appeal by loud signs of dissent; and Mr. MOWATT retracted. Eventually Mr. Blackstone's motion was adopted.

MEDICAL RELIEF FOR PAUPERS.

On Thursday, Lord ASHLEY brought forward seven resolutions on the subject of medical relief for the poor; which in effect made these provisions:—

1. That every pregnant woman should be entitled to medical attendance, on her first confinement at all events, and on all subsequent confinements if the medical attendant during her first time shall certify that her case was peculiar and that she will require attendance.
2. In serious cases, the union surgeon to have the power of calling in the aid of a competent brother practitioner; who should be paid.
3. Medical inspectors to be appointed, at salaries of £600 a year, with extras, who should inspect and regulate the medical treatment of the poor, the diet and sanitary condition of the union houses, and the salaries of the union medical officers.
4. That the medical officers of unions should after March next be irremovable except by the Poor-law Commissioners.
5. Union medical and surgical practice to be restricted to practitioners duly qualified by the recognised medical corporations.
6. The medical officer of each union to be furnished with a list of the poor entitled to his attendance; and be bound to attend those contained in it, on their application, for twenty-four hours without special order.
7. Casual poor to be treated in the same way.

Lord Ashley stated that these resolutions were founded on the evidence taken before the committee in 1844. The pressure of business had prevented due consideration of the evidence in 1845, and Lord Ashley was absent from Parliament in 1846 and 1847. If medical relief be administered at all, it should be efficient; but the general feeling of the country is that the administration of medical relief is at present on the worst possible footing. He held the first resolution to be the most important of the seven; and went into painful details to prove the cruel defects of the present system. Persons are sometimes employed of such ignorance that the most shocking mutilations, and even permanent injuries, had resulted from their acts. Lord Ashley was checked in stating these details by the repugnance of the House; and in deference to that feeling he desisted. A medical officer cannot secure remuneration for his attendance, unless it be given on order by the Board of Guardians, or the applicant be on the list of paupers; and if her husband gains a miserable six or seven shillings a week, the order is withheld. Lord Ashley combated the notion that immorality would be increased by his proposition: the greatest care should be exercised lest in avoiding encouragement to one species of immorality, another of a far more heinous nature might not be increased—infanticide.

Mr. CHARLES BULLER felt aggrieved that these resolutions had been proposed without any notice of what had been done by the Poor-law Commissioners since the sitting of the Committee of 1844. The resolutions proposed to rectify some deficiencies and abuses which had been already far more effectually rectified. It is impossible, through the Poor-law, to give relief upon any general system more satisfactory than the present. If a larger, a more complete

system be wished for, it cannot be administered by local agency or on the payment of local funds, but must be based on some system of central administration, and draw support from the national funds. The House should consider how immense an improvement there had been in the administration of relief. The augmentation of the sum paid is proof that the economy which has ruled over Poor-law administration has never been at the expense of the suffering sick. In 1838, the estimated population of England and Wales was 15,155,000, and the sum laid out in medical poor-relief was £136,775; in 1846, the population was 16,851,000, and the sum had increased to £175,190, or in the increased proportion of one-sixth of the first sum. The system of extra nourishment, in fact, first arose under the new law. In regard to salaries of medical officers, some improvements might still be made. The salaries are insufficient: there is great difficulty in laying down any general system on this subject. There are great abuses in the payments by fees, and in the dispensing of drugs: but remedies are difficult; and Mr. Buller had no plan in which he felt sufficient confidence to make it the ground of a general order. Again, with regard to cases of illness, the discretion of the relieving-officer should be narrowed to the smallest limits. The best administration would confide to the medical officer the discretion of attending or not any sick applicant, on his own responsibility, subject to approval at the next meeting of the board of guardians. On all these difficult points Mr. Buller would thankfully receive suggestions. He objected to the resolution proposed by Lord Ashley, on the ground of its indiscriminating charity: it was an open offer of medical relief to every woman in the parish, married or unmarried. Now, medical relief in these particular cases has at least the peculiarity that it is never needed without previous notice. A general order is already in existence, which directs attendance in cases of difficulty without a relieving officer's order, subject only to the determination of the board that the person attended was in a destitute condition. Now, who are fitter persons than the guardians to have this power of protecting the expenditure of the rates? How otherwise could better attendance be provided, on application for attendance by the wife of the richest farmer in the parish? Mr. Buller concluded by moving "the previous question."

Mr. WAKLEY supposed that Mr. Buller had got a complete sinecure in his office—the present system, the work of his predecessors, being so perfect! But nothing was further from what it ought to be than the present system. Medical men are not only discontented, but exasperated, at the position they are placed in. Mr. Wakley undertook the task of detail which Lord Ashley's delicacy had declined, and supplied the House with horrifying information—women in childbed lacerated and exenterated by ignorant or intoxicated midwives. The sick poor are not treated with the same care that sick criminals receive.

In reply to a question by Mr. WAKLEY, Mr. BULLER stated that he had requested the opinions of the Poor-law Inspectors on the proposed first resolution: all of them but one had concurred in condemning the resolution; Sir John Walsham, who saw no objection to the resolution, required a reasonable definition of the class of persons to be benefited.

The motion was supported by Captain PACHELL and Sir HARRY VERNEY; and opposed by Mr. HUME, Mr. HENRY, Sir WILLIAM CLAY, Lord EBBINGTON, and Mr. ADDERLEY. On a division, Mr. Buller's amendment was carried by 50 to 37.

The second resolution was withdrawn; Mr. BULLER promising to act in the spirit of it.

Lord ASHLEY having moved the third resolution, Mr. BULLER again moved "the previous question;" objecting to the plan on the score of expense and interference with local control: but he promised to direct his attention to the subject of medical inspection. If necessary, a medical inspector should be appointed. After a debate very similar to the foregoing, the previous question was carried by 101 to 19.

The debate on the fourth resolution had a similar issue: the previous question was carried by 93 to 36.

The three remaining resolutions were withdrawn.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

On Thursday, Mr. F. O'CONNOR moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act 9 and 10 Vict., c. xxvii., entitled "An Act to Amend the Laws relating to Friendly Societies." It was a mere social change which he sought to effect by the bill, by which he did not mean to advance either socialism or communism. The poor were now robbed of all the fruits of their labour; and the measure which he sought to lay upon the table was designed for their social regeneration; which measure the hon. gentleman proceeded, at considerable length, to develop; and the object of which was, to extend the protection of the law to those who had entered into the land scheme, of which he was the founder and promoter. His plan would not interfere with any of the existing rights of property. In seeking the protection of the law for the subscribers to it, he sought that protection for them against himself as well as against others; for the whole of the money embarked in it was in his hands, and invested in his name to the amount of £180,000. The company could not now be enrolled under the Benefit Societies Act, and he sought to remove the impediments to such enrolment, so as not to compel them to incur the trouble and expense of going to complete registration.

Sir G. GREY observed, that although he had no very definite notion of the plan which Mr. F. O'CONNOR had developed to the House, he was anxious to assure him that there was no indisposi-

tion on the part of the Government to afford all due facilities for the defence of the investments of the poor. If Mr. F. O'CONNOR's bill should have the effect of legalizing lotteries, he certainly should not give his support to it on the second reading. He would not, however, object to its introduction at present; but he begged that it might be distinctly understood that he expressed no opinion as to the merits or legality of this society.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

EXTENSION OF THE INCOME-TAX TO IRELAND.

On Friday night, the House of Commons resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means.

Sir B. HALL then moved, that towards raising the supply granted to Her Majesty the income-tax be extended to Ireland. His proposition, he said, was so fair and equitable that it had been maintained by Sir R. Peel in 1833, and subsequently in 1842, when that great financier admitted that if the income-tax were to be made permanent in Great Britain its extension to Ireland would be advisable. Now, the income-tax was likely to be made permanent in Great Britain, and therefore, according to Sir R. Peel, the time for its extension to Ireland had already arrived. He then turned to the Whig section of the house, and showed that the leaders of the Whig party had more than once expressed similar sentiments. After mentioning that the people of England had no remission of taxation last year on account of the distress which then prevailed in Ireland, and after stating the amount of money which had been given by the people of England and had been voted by the British Parliament to relieve that distress, he proceeded to notice the strange way in which our liberality had been treated by the leaders of a large party in Ireland. Mr. J. O'CONNELL, in one of his multifarious harangues, had spoken of "the tyrannous avarice of England," and of "our heartless mockeries of Irish suffering." Now, after all that we had done for the relief of Ireland it was too bad that we should thus be assailed with censure and abuse in places where we could not meet and refute such insane accusations: We did not want either gratitude or thanks, for we had only performed our duty towards Ireland; but if we were to be censured and abused, let us be abused and censured here, in order that we might repel with scorn and indignation the unworthy attacks to which we were exposed. He then called attention to the two divisions which had already taken place upon the income-tax, for the purpose of showing that the Irish members had been extremely active in fastening this tax upon the shoulders of the people of England. On the last division, 67 Irish members voted for the continuance of the income-tax in Great Britain for three years, and only nine had voted for its continuance for one year. Now, he had always voted for the extension of equal laws and privileges to Ireland; and as the Irish members were so much in favour of the project for imposing an income-tax on Great Britain, they must not be surprised if he were equally strenuous in his efforts to impose that tax upon Ireland also.

Sir H. W. BARRON commenced his observations in opposition to this motion by calling names, and by attaching to the hon. baronet who proposed it the *soubriquet* of "Conciliation-Hall." Considering the excited state of the Irish population, and of Europe, and the civilized world generally, and considering, also, that the Irish labourers were starving by millions at that moment in Ireland, and that the Irish landlords had not received during the last year one-fifth of their rents, and were taxed in every possible way to relieve the distresses of their tenantry, the present was not the time to visit Ireland with a tax which was not imposed upon it during any period of the last war. It was on the 17th of March, too—St. Patrick's day—that this boon was offered to Ireland; and that, too, after intelligence had arrived from France that very morning, that the Irish in Paris had assembled in the Place de la Concorde, and had marched thence to the Hôtel de Ville to join the French Republic. It was most injudicious at this moment to moot such a question; and Sir B. Hall, in mooted it, was doing more mischief in Ireland than could be effected by the speech of the vilest incendiary in that country. He was fortified in his opinion of the impolicy of imposing an income-tax upon Ireland, not only by the opinions of Mr. Leslie Foster, Sir R. Peel, and the other authorities in that House, but also by the reports of three committees, which had sat in the years 1815, 1816, and 1817, on the consolidation of the Exchequers of the two countries. In the last six months the poor-law had added an enormous amount to the taxation of Ireland. The landowners of Ireland were almost sinking under it, and yet Sir B. Hall would now heap upon the camel's back an additional burden. He believed that the Irish people contributed more to the taxation of the empire, in proportion to their resources, than the people of England.

Mr. MOORE, although admitting, as he did, that the proposition of Sir B. Hall would place a heavy additional burden on a suffering and impoverished people, was still not of the number of those who thought that an income-tax was a tax altogether unsuited to the circumstances of Ireland. It was just to the people of England, and also to the people of Ireland, that every man in Ireland, and every species of property in Ireland, should bear its fair share of the national burdens. Whilst the income-taxed shopkeeper of England was paying to the relief of the Irish distress, and whilst the Irish farmer was contributing from his wasted means to the same object, and whilst so many men of ten or twenty times their income were sneaking out of all contributions to so laudable a purpose, a species of property-

tax was a measure of absolute necessity for the restoration of welfare and prosperity to Ireland.

Mr. W. FAGAN pointed out the inconsistency of Sir B. Hall's conduct in resisting the imposition of an income-tax upon England, on account of its odious and inquisitorial character, and in endeavouring to place such a tax on the shoulders of the people of Ireland. He had himself voted against the imposition of this tax upon the people of England in every stage, and he was therefore entitled to vote against the imposition of it upon the people of Ireland. He then rambled away from the motion into all the topics which are the common staple of a Repeal speech.

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON admitted, that if the circumstances of Great Britain and Ireland were equal, the application of taxation to them should be equal too; but contended that the circumstances of the two countries were so disproportionate as not to allow the application of the same taxation to both.

Mr. NAPIER and Colonel CONOLLY opposed, and Sir JOHN TYRRELL supported the motion.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER resisted the motion as inexpedient and impolitic. It had never been held that it was necessary to impose identical taxes on England and Ireland; it might be just that such taxes should be imposed, but practical inconvenience often ensued from adopting the principle of justice in taxation as between two countries. When we had abstained from imposing this tax upon Ireland for four or five years during which it was reasonably prosperous, it would be a cruel thing to impose it on Ireland when she was suffering under severe and calamitous affliction. He admitted that the property of Ireland ought to maintain the poverty of Ireland; but the House ought to recollect that of late years a tax had been imposed on Ireland for that very purpose, and that it amounted at present to £2,000,000 a year.

Mr. HORSMAN was not acting upon a feeling of retaliation but of self-defence in supporting this resolution. The Irish members, by acting together on this question, had made it a matter of necessity upon English members to make them feel that they must not impose upon England a tax from which Ireland was exempt.

Colonel MURE, Mr. G. BANKES, and Mr. NEWDEGATE supported the proposition; Mr. ROCHE and Colonel DUNNE opposed it.

Mr. WAKLEY observed, that although he had voted against this proposition in 1845 he should vote for it in 1848; and the reason for the change in his vote was that this tax was then said to be only temporary, but was now declared to be permanent. He could not go before his constituents as an honest representative if he did not vote against a measure which was intended to relieve the landlords of Ireland from a burden which they ought to bear. The Irish members had placed a blister on the shoulders of the people of England. He as a doctor would place a similar blister on theirs, and the more it smarted the better it would be for their constitution. He concluded by reading some extracts from the speeches made in 1845 by Colonel Conolly and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in favour of this very resolution which they were now opposing.

Colonel CONOLLY and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER successively rose in some perturbation to complain of the unfairness of Mr. Wakley's quotations.

Mr. WAKLEY persisted that he had read the quotations without alterations, and had not garbled them by reading part of one sentence and omitting the remainder, as was charged against him.

Mr. MONSELL opposed the resolution, and contended that it was the interest of England not to depress but to raise the condition of Ireland. Nothing would depress Ireland more than the imposition of the income-tax, which would besides produce but a very scanty revenue when the cost of collection was deducted from it.

Mr. HUME took the same view of this question as Colonel Mure, that if the income-tax were levied in the Highlands it ought to be levied in Ireland also; for the Highlands had suffered as much from distress last year even as Ireland itself.

Mr. REYNOLDS and Sir A. BROOKE opposed, and Mr. MUNTZ supported the resolution.

Mr. JAMES WILSON rose amidst loud cries for a division. The honourable gentleman was some time before he could obtain a hearing, and when he did so, he said: I will not detain you more than five minutes [he was here again interrupted by loud cries of "divide, divide"]. I will not, said the honourable gentleman, detain you more than five or ten minutes [here there were loud expressions of impatience, in the midst of which the honourable gentleman sat down].

The committee then divided, when there appeared:—

For the motion	138
Against it	218

Majority against the motion .. 80
The House then resumed.

THE INCOME-TAX.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, on the motion that the report from the committee of ways and means be brought up,

Mr. HUME observed that he would offer no further opposition at present to the progress of the bill for continuing the income-tax; but he hoped that when it was read a second time the Government would consent to refer it to a select committee, for the purpose of inquiring into the best mode of depriving the tax of its inequalities.

Sir DE LACY EVANS concurred in the suggestion of Mr. Hume; and expressed himself to the effect, that the Government had been intimidated into the

proposal of the bill continuing the tax in its present shape.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured the House that in no respect had the Government been intimidated into proposing the bill continuing the alleged inequalities of the income-tax. He himself had given the subject the best attention in his power. He did not mean to say that there was not something plausible in the scheme for its modification which had been adverted to; but the more that he had investigated into the whole subject, the less able was he to divine any plan which would not lead to injustices still more gross than those which were involved in the tax in its present form. He was still ready, however, to give every consideration in his power to any plan for its modification which might be submitted.

After a few words from Dr. BOWRING,

Mr. COBDEN, in reply to a remark which had fallen from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to the effect that the income-tax was levied in this country in the same way as in foreign countries, observed that in no other country was there an income-tax at all; in proof of which he cited the authority of Mr. M'Gregor. There were some foreign countries in which direct taxation was levied to a large amount, but there was no other country but this in the civilized world in which a tax was levied upon profits.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, on the same authority as was relied upon by Mr. Cobden, replied that in the state of South Carolina a tax upon trade and profits was levied.

Mr. HORSMAN said that the Government, in alleging that no plan could be devised by which the present vexatious features of the income-tax could be removed, put itself in collision with the public at large. It would give general satisfaction, if the Government would listen to the suggestion to submit the bill to the inquiry of a select committee.

Mr. M'GREGOR admitted that in the state of South Carolina, for local purposes, a tax upon trades and profits was levied. He admitted the difficulties which existed in the way of a proper modification of the tax; but there was no reason to believe that such modification was impossible, and he hoped that the Government would not shrink from attempting it.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL would not then discuss the question of submitting the bill to a select committee, as a fitter opportunity for entering into it would soon present itself. If the objections to the income-tax were so wide spread as Mr. Horsman represented them to be, he much feared that discontent would not be put an end to, even were the hon. and learned gentleman's own favourite modification of it adopted.

Mr. S. CRAWFORD protested, in the name of his constituents, against the tax, in its present form.

The report was then received, and leave was given to bring in a bill founded thereon.

THE NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The House then resolved itself into committee of supply.

Mr. WARD, in moving a vote of £1,425,308 to cover the expense of a naval force of 27,500 men, 2,000 boys, and 13,500 marines—43,000 in all, addressed the committee at some length, in vindication of the estimates for the present year, and held out hopes that reductions to the extent of £606,853 might be effected in framing them for the next and future years.

Mr. HUME treated the motion for any more money as a breach of faith, on the part of the Government with the House, the understanding having been that no more money would be asked for until the committee on the estimates had reported to the House. Besides, he was about to move as an amendment a reduction in the number of men, and he did not see how he could move such an amendment to a vote for a grant of money. The usual mode of proceeding was first to vote the number of men.

A discussion upon the form in which the vote was to be taken occupied some time, after which

Mr. HUME reiterated his objections to the employment of so large a force as that proposed, maintaining that the increase of the estimates since 1834 had alone rendered the imposition of the income-tax necessary. If the economists went too far in favour of reduced expenditure, the conduct of Mr. Ward was more inexplicable, in glorying, as he did, in extravagance. Reduction, so far as our naval establishments went, depended upon a reduction in the number of men. A reduction of 15,000 men might be effected in all, but the amendment which he then wished to submit was to reduce the number of men from 43,000 to 36,000. Had the estimates not been increased during the last few years, we might have done without the income-tax altogether, and been now all the richer by its amount. He concluded by moving his amendment.

Mr. CORRY, Mr. Ward's predecessor as Secretary of the Admiralty, contended, that the amount of force proposed to be voted was amply justified by the aspect of affairs, and was followed in this view by Mr. B. COCHRANE. Mr. AGLONY advocated and Mr. BRUCE denounced Captain Warner's invention; and

Sir J. GRAHAM, after defending the economical arrangements he had carried into effect when he presided over the Admiralty in 1835, and noticing some points in Mr. Ward's speech, explained the reasons which had induced him to support the proposed vote. He described the causes which rendered a large standing army so necessary to France that it could be no just source of jealousy to England, and which required England, on the other hand, to keep up an efficient navy, and after briefly recounting the occasions of difference between the two countries

which had occurred within the last few years, and adverted to the great increase of the French navy, which—as France had no distant colonies or extensive trade to protect—was purely an offensive force, arrived at the conclusion that the Government would have neglected its duty if it had not made such preparations as would place the country beyond the danger of invasion. He suggested, however, the possibility of reducing expense without impairing efficiency, pointing especially to the civil service of the navy and the disposition of the African squadron.

After some observations to Lord SEYMOUR and Lord INGESTRE, in opposition to the amendment,

Mr. COBDEN entered his protest against the doctrine that the Executive Government was alone responsible for the estimates and expenditure on the navy. The responsibility lay with the House. He also protested against the proposition that the House should not be informed of all the reasons which induced the Government to demand a certain amount of force. Step by step had the expenditure been increased; the Government taking advantage of every opportunity for increasing it, but no opportunity was ever taken for its reduction. The honourable gentleman then proceeded to expose what he termed the "stale pretence that our navy protected our commerce." The navy estimates more than counterbalanced all the profits received by our shipowners. As to the political part of the question, he observed that France, in measuring her naval power, took ours as their standard. It was England, by the constant increase of her navy, that had impelled France, step by step, to increase hers, and when the Government here was called upon to reduce, it pointed to the conduct of France as its justification for enormous outlays. The two countries were playing at a game of which children might be ashamed. The two Governments should arrest their progress in this respect, by dealing frankly with each other and mutually reducing their armaments. This would be done were there a sincere desire at head quarters to reduce expenditure. The whole expenditure of America, during a time of war, was only two-thirds of the expenditure of this country on the navy, army, and ordnance alone, in a time of peace. If the expenditure now meditated were voted, he was ready to impose it exclusively upon all those who had incomes of £150 a year and upwards, so that no further taxation should fall upon the working classes. The heavy burdens laid upon the people were the primary cause of the revolutions which were now sweeping over Europe. Our great danger lay in our financial difficulties—a danger enhanced by the illicit intercourse carried on between the Government and the Bank of England. Our financial difficulties had nothing to do with a falling revenue, but with an inordinate expenditure.

Admiral DUNDAS, in reply to Mr. Cobden's speech at Manchester, some months ago, reflecting upon the navy, and containing charges which he partly repeated in his speech just delivered, read a letter from Admiral Parker, which called forth an explanation from Mr. Cobden, in which he reiterated his charges, and defied the Government to disprove them.

After a few words from Colonel TYNTE,

Lord PALMERSTON observed that he did not rise to defend the navy, as "the blood of Douglas could protect itself." In addressing himself to the question before the House, the noble lord defended the Government from the charge of incurring an inordinate and unnecessary expenditure in seeking to maintain the force at present at the disposal of the Government. The extent of our commerce, and of our colonial possessions, was such as to require a large naval force for their protection, and he protested against the doctrine of Mr. Cobden that the navy was of no material service in this respect. If the honourable gentleman's argument was correct, that the navy was useless, because our squadrons were sometimes lying apparently idle in certain ports, it would be equally cogent against the army and police whom we saw around us, and who were not always engaged in the avocations for which they were maintained. He could tell the hon. gentleman that the navy of this country was of great utility, not only to it, but to the interests of universal peace, although that navy was not always employed in hostile operations. And although the hon. gentleman seemed to think that there was no danger in the present state of affairs, because the ploughman and the weaver did not dread invasion: there were others, more competent to judge, who did, and in their circumstances it was not likely that this country would strip itself of its protection, and rely exclusively on the paltry pretences in this respect of free trade, the sound doctrines of which he had frequently defended. In adverted to the present state of Europe, the noble lord observed that, if any reasoning man had thought, some weeks ago, that the force thus proposed was greater than the exigencies of the public service required, he could no longer think so. The future was big with events, which he trusted would not be of a gloomy character; and whatever influence the British Government could exert would be exerted in favour of peace. But so long as the future was big with uncertainty, he thought that no rational man could wish that our force should be reduced below its present standard. In attempting to influence others in favour of peace, they must show—not that they were seeking it out of timidity or fear, but that they sought it for its own sake, and for the interests of humanity. It was the desire of the Government not only that this country should enjoy the blessings of peace, but that the whole world should participate in its advantages.

After a few words from Captain HARRIS, who denounced Mr. Cobden as the "libeller of the Duke of Wellington,"

Mr. BRIGHT supported the amendment, contending that frank and friendly communications with other powers would lead to a material reduction of military establishments. The only impediment in the way of this desirable consummation was the unwillingness of governments to submit to the reduction of the establishments which, for their own purposes, they found so useful.

Mr. DRUMMOND said that if they listened to the advice of the free traders, they would introduce into the army and navy those pernicious principles which had ruined us in every other way.

After a few words from Sir H. VERNY, and from Mr. HUME in reply,

The committee divided, and the numbers were—

For the amendment 38

Against it 347

Majority against —309

The resolution was then agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GLoucester ELECTION.—The petition referred to a Select Committee of the House of Commons for inquiring into the conduct of Lord Fitzhardinge in the late Gloucester election has dropped. The Committee gave a delay for the production of more specific charges than were at first brought before it. None having been brought, the Committee resolved, that no case was made for inquiry; and that it is inexpedient to proceed further in the matter. Their report to this effect was printed on Saturday last.

ELECTION RECOGNIZANCES BILL.—On Wednesday, Mr. WALPOLE moved the second reading of the Election Recognizances Bill. A discovery has been made that the recognizances entered into by the petitioners against several returns in the last election are of a questionable validity, owing to the mistake of some officer of the House. Mr. Walpole's measure, based upon the recommendation of a Committee, proposed, on the one hand, that the petitions should not be capable of prosecution till valid security for costs and a bona fide prosecution were given; and on the other, that the petitioners whose recognizances have been found defective should be empowered to enter into fresh ones of a valid description. Mr. SPOONER opposed the bill; and moved as an amendment, that the petitions against returns in the cases of Bodmin, Cheltenham, Leicester, Walsall, Dublin, and the county of Longford, be discharged, and no further proceedings taken in them. The discussion was divided by every shade of opinion; but ultimately, both the motion and amendment fell to the ground; the House standing adjourned at six o'clock, in the midst of divisions.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—In reply to Mr. SANDARS, on Tuesday, Mr. LABOUCHERE stated, that last session he prepared a measure on this subject; this session, however, the Chancellor of the Exchequer objects to the expense of the scheme, £30,000 or £40,000; it is therefore postponed.

NORTH-WEST EXPEDITION.—In reply to Sir ROBERT INGLIS, on Wednesday, Mr. WARD gave some information on the subject of the Arctic Expedition. He feared there was too much cause for anxiety as to the present situation of Sir John Franklin's expedition. Though it left England in July, 1845, in the most perfect state of preparation, the ships were victualled only for three full years, which would expire in the summer of the present year. They were accompanied by a transport, which was required to complete their amount of provisions for the period of three years. Three expeditions were now in course of preparation. The "Plover" departed early in February, for Behring's Straits; there it is to be met by the "Pearl." The two vessels were to enter the Straits, where they would winter; and the boats of the "Plover" were to sweep the whole coast eastward. The expedition which Dr. Rae would accompany would descend the Mackenzie River with fifteen sappers and eight or nine seamen in four boats stored with provisions. Sir James Ross would sail early in May with Captain Bird; and the "Enterprise" and "Investigator" had been sent to Baffin's Bay with provisions sufficient not only for themselves but for Sir John Franklin and his companions, should they be discovered. A reward was offered to the whale-ships, now beginning to sail from Hull, which should give intelligence on the subject, or afford assistance. Rewards of 100 guineas would be offered for information, and this amount would be increased according to the assistance which might be rendered.

BIRTH OF A PRINCESS.—In the House of Lords, on Monday, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, and Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in the House of Commons, respectively moved an address of congratulation to her Majesty on the birth of another princess, which was of course carried unanimously.

ELECTION PETITIONS.—In the House of Commons, on Monday, Mr. WRIGHTSON, from the Bewdley election committee, reported that Mr. T. J. Ireland had not been duly returned, and that the election was void. Lord H. VANE also, from the Dundalk committee, reported that Mr. M'Tavish had not been duly elected, and that the committee had seated Mr. T. M'Cullagh, Mr. M'Tavish's opponent in the late election, on a scrutiny.

WINDOW-BREAKING.—Sir W. CLAY, dissatisfied with a reply from Sir G. Grey, in reference to the state of the law on the subject of window-breaking during the late disturbances, intimated his intention of bringing in a bill for its amendment on an early day.

UNIVERSITY TESTS.—The LORD ADVOCATE, in reply to Mr. COWAN, stated that he should, as soon as the state of public business permitted, bring in a bill to alter the existing law, which required that all the professors at the universities of Scotland should be members of the established church of that country.

REDUCTION OF SALARIES.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL, in answer to Mr. Hume, replied that so long as any inquiries were pending, appointments to public situations ought to be, and would be made, subject to any provisions which Parliament might make for the reduction of salaries attaching to them. But he presumed, in cases where gentlemen gave up private professional pursuits, or other situations of emolument, to hold office, that due consideration would be paid to such cases.

A bill to disfranchise the freemen of Yarmouth has been brought in and read a first time.

Viscount HARDINGE took the oaths and his seat in the House of Lords on Monday.

Mr. ROMILLY has obtained leave to bring in a bill for abolishing certain offices in the Petty Bag, in the High Court of Chancery, and for regulating the Petty Bag-office.

Mr. S. CRAWFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill to extend the powers given by former Acts for purchasing or hiring land in connexion with or for the use of poor-houses in Ireland, in order to afford the means of applying the labour of paupers to their own support.

THE SUFFRAGE.—Mr. WYLD on Thursday moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend the franchise to all male persons paying the income or property-tax. Sir G. GREY said, it was too late, at that hour, to discuss so important a subject, and under any circumstances, he should object to the introduction of such a bill, founded on a merely temporary tax. Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. OSBORNE has given notice of a motion for the abolition of church-rates.

Mr. ANSTAY'S monster motion was withdrawn on Thursday. The O'GORMAN MAHON said, that as the only end of the honourable member's motion, if carried out, must have been the decapitation of the Prime Minister, and the noble lord the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, it must be gratifying to the House to find those noble personages now delivered from such peril [a laugh]. The order of the day for the adjourned debate on the treaty of Adrianople, &c., was then discharged.

PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.—The following is a list of the minority on the motion made in the House of Commons, on Tuesday, for leave to bring in a bill for the total repeal of the punishment of death:—

Adair, Hugh E.	Hall, Sir B.	Pilkington, J.
Aglionby, H.	Headlam, Thomas	Power, Dr.
Alcock, Thomas	Henry, Alexander	Power, Nicholas
Barnard, E. G.	Heywood, James	Raphael, A.
Birch, Sir Thomas	Hindley, C.	Robertes, T. J.
Bowring, Dr.	Hodges, T. Twisden	Roche, E. B.
Bright, John	Hume, Joseph	Salway, Col.
Brotherton, J.	Hutt, William	Scholefield, W.
Callaghan, D.	Jackson, William	Sidney, Thomas
Clay, James	Keating, Robert	Smith, J. B.
Cobbold, John C.	Kershaw, James	Strickland, Sir C.
Cobden, Richard	King, P. J.	Tennant, J.
Cowan, Charles	Lennard, T. B.	Thompson, Col.
Crawford, W. S.	Lushington, C.	Thompson, G.
D'Eyncourt, C. T.	Meagher, Thomas	Thornely, T.
Divett, Edward	Milnes, E. M.	Turner, E.
Duff, George S.	Mowatt, Francis	Walmesley, Sir J.
Duncan, George	Muntz, G. F.	Wawn, J. T.
Fagan, William	O'Brien, Timothy	Williams, John
Fagan, James	O'Connor, Feargus	
Fox, W. J.	Pattison, John	TELLERS.
Greene, John	Pechell, Captain	Ewart, William
Grosvenor, Lord R.		Nugent, Lord

ONE OF THE MINISTERIAL CHANGES in contemplation is said, on good authority, to be the introduction of Mr. Cardwell into a very high office, which will necessarily involve a seat in the Cabinet. The arrangement is described as having the strong support of Sir Robert Peel, by whom it was originally suggested. Such a change in the Administration is perfectly probable under existing circumstances.—*Manchester Guardian*. [May not this throw a little additional light on the hon. gentleman's vote on the income-tax?]

WEST KENT EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.—This society, whose valuable statistical paper has been commended in our own and other journals, held its second anniversary on Wednesday, the 15th inst., at the Assembly Room, Gravesend. The report of the labours for the past year showed that the society had expended about one hundred and twenty pounds in West Kent for educational purposes, by grants of money, which secured the contribution of a much larger sum, its donations being in proportion to the willingness of the recipients to provide for themselves. The principal subject of the report and of the meeting was the voluntary principle, as applied to education, and we are glad in being able to state that the society, having up to the present time remained silent, pronounced an unequivocal judgment of condemnation on the proposals of the Minutes, and, under existing circumstances, advised the friends of popular education in West Kent to decline receiving aid from Government. Mr. Wm. Smith, of Dartford, Thomas Pewtress, Esq., of Gravesend, Mr. Patrick Thomson, A.M., of Chatham, and Mr. E. S. Pryce, of Gravesend, spoke at the public meeting, and G. W. Alexander, Esq., of London, took the chair. The society embraces on its committee Christians of various denominations, and has for the sphere of its activity the whole district of West Kent. Although an independent society on a more comprehensive basis, it may be regarded now as a friendly ally of the New Voluntary School Association, and has set an example to the provinces.

PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.—A public meeting to petition Parliament against capital punishment was held at Croydon on the 13th inst., Mr. Hayes in the chair, when resolutions were unanimously passed, condemning the punishment of death on social, moral, and religious grounds, and a petition to Parliament adopted.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

Numerous meetings have been held in the great towns of the North, to express sympathy with the French Republic and petition Parliament in favour of "the Charter."

On Wednesday, several thousand people assembled in Birmingham, in the immense Town-hall; an enthusiastic, but orderly assemblage. Mr. Baldwin, a Town-Councillor, presided; and Mr. Joseph Sturge, Alderman Weston, and the Reverend Arthur O'Neil, were present. A letter from Mr. William Scholefield, the Member, excused himself from attendance, but expressed unreserved sympathy with both the objects of the meeting. Mr. BLAXLAND, a working man, said:—

We want the aristocracy to pay their share of the taxes. All that the head of a family pays to the State is received back by the other branches of it by means of their commissions in the army, the navy, and other departments of the State. We must have a cheap Government. We love the Queen, but we cannot afford to pay her so high. For my part I think no monarch ought to have more than £50,000 a year. I rejoice that the revolutionary spirit is spreading throughout Europe. Hungary and Germany are on the verge of a revolution, and the sceptre of Austria totters to its fall.

Mr. Alderman WESTON came forward on the part of the middle classes, to fraternize with the working classes. They would enter into an agreement. The working classes should not abuse the middle classes, and he would, as far as he could, prevent the middle classes from abusing the working classes [cheers].

Mr. J. STURGE then presented himself amidst vehement cheering.

He commenced by stating that he had only left France the previous day, and it was not until last night he saw, on his way to Birmingham, in an evening paper, the announcement of the present meeting. He was sorry to see, in connexion with that announcement, a statement that two pieces of ordnance and a number of additional soldiers had been despatched to Birmingham. He warned the authorities by whom this military force had been sent of what a fortnight ago had occurred in France. The King, in spite of soldiers and impregnable forts, had been compelled to fly at a moment's notice [cheers]. Mr. Sturge proceeded to give an account of his interview with M. Lamartine on presenting the address of certain Peace Societies in England, and stated, in connexion with it, that the French Minister of Marine had informed him that immediately it became known that the British Government did not intend to interfere with the late revolution, he had given orders that the naval armaments of France should not be increased. The hon. gentleman next alluded to the expulsion of English workmen from France, which he said ought not to be attributed to the French nation, but was much the same as English labourers sometimes did, endeavouring to expel Irish labourers from England. Mr. Sturge, in conclusion, approved the opportunity then taken by them as Englishmen, demanding their own political rights. He cautioned them, however, that the despotism they had to contend against in England was different to that which had been conquered in France. In the latter country it was the despotism of one man; in England it was the despotism of an oligarchy. He exhorted them not to be divided upon the question of a monarchy or a republic, but to be united firmly against the despotism of an oligarchy [loud cheers].

An address to the people of France was then carried unanimously.

A petition to Parliament in favour of the people's charter was then adopted; and after speeches from Messrs. Collins, Mason, and other Chartists, the meeting quietly separated.

CHARTIST MEETING AT BRADFORD.—On Friday evening there was a gathering of some 2,000 men—chiefly artisans—to petition Parliament in favour of the people's charter. W. E. Forster, Esq., presided in the absence of the mayor. The first resolution was moved by Mr. Swann, a quaker, and seconded by Mr. Councillor Rawson, and the remaining proceedings were conducted by working men. Some fears had been excited in the town by an announcement of this meeting, and various provisions were made to prevent mischief; but—notwithstanding their privations and sufferings—the excitement consequent on their earnestness for the object they sought—and being jammed within four walls, insufficient to contain half of those who tried to get in—a more orderly meeting never assembled, nor were we ever present at any large meeting of the kind when there was so little to disapprove. All honour to the working men of Bradford! They deserve the charter, and trust they may live to secure and enjoy it. The petition was unanimously entrusted for presentation to Colonel Thompson, M.P.

Meetings of a similar character, formidable in numbers and in their peaceful bearing, have been held at Wakefield, Halifax, Bath, Ipswich, Edinburgh, &c. At many of these meetings, prominent and influential members of the middle classes have come forward to advocate the political rights of the people.

At Southampton, the mayor, (D. Brooks, Esq.), on the requisition of several of the inhabitants, convened a town's meeting, and greatly to his credit, presided over it himself, "for the purpose of taking into consideration the extension of the franchise." The meeting was numerously attended and most orderly, and amongst the resolutions adopted, with only one dissentient, were the following:—

That this meeting is of opinion that the monopoly of the elective franchise by a class is unfair in principle, and injurious in practice: that in a country professedly of free institutions, every man of, and above the age of twenty-one, of sound mind, and untainted by crime, should possess the right of voting for his representative in parliament.

That this meeting is of opinion that an act should be provided to guard the proper exercise of the elective franchise, and to secure the right of voting to every adult male, not disqualified by crime or insanity, and as this meeting is aware of a bill entitled the "People's Charter," which contains provisions suitable to that end, it is our fervent wish that the legislature should enact it as the law of the realm, and that the following

petition should be signed by the mayor, on behalf of the meeting, and that A. E. Cockburn, Esq. be requested to present it and to support its prayer, and that B. M. Willcox, Esq. be respectfully urged to be in his place and vote on any measure affecting the suffrage.

How different from the conduct of the magistrates of Bath, who, contrary to the advice of the mayor, adopted the precaution described in the following extract from the *Bath Journal*:—

We had the yeomanry in attendance, at the cost of seven shillings each from the taxes; troops from Trowbridge, kept at a respectful distance, paid from the same source; three hundred special constables, at three shillings and sixpence each, paid from the Borough Fund; and an increase of the police, by taking all the supernumeraries into pay—the whole being an infliction of a cost from the taxes, national and local, of at least £200, in our opinion, most unnecessary. It has also been reported to us that our respected Chief of the Police, who ought to have known the Bath people better, gave importance to the meeting, and fostered the unfounded fears of timid inhabitants, by requesting the withdrawal of placards from the windows, and by gravely advising the gunsmiths to take off the locks of their guns and pistols. . . . We can speak of the Chartists of Bath, if not of other places, as men whose conduct has been known for many years to be exemplarily orderly, —as men respectable, industrious, and intelligent; and who deserved, therefore, far more respectful treatment than they have received.

"A PROGRESSIVE REFORM ASSOCIATION" has been formed at Leicester, for the purpose of securing universal suffrage, vote by ballot, economic government, direct and equitable taxation, and the entire separation of church and state.

REPEAL AND CHARTIST DEMONSTRATION AT MANCHESTER.—There was a meeting of repealers and chartists at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, in the evening of St. Patrick's day (Friday), to promote a union and "fraternization" between the two bodies. A meeting to which 6,000 to 7,000 persons had paid for admission has not often been witnessed. Mr. O'Connor, M.P., Mr. Meagher, and Mr. Dohenny, were the principal members of the promised deputation from the Irish Confederation present; but Mr. S. O'Brien, M.P., Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Anstey, M.P., Mr. C. G. Duffy, Mr. J. Martin, and Mr. P. O. Higgins, who had been announced as expected, did not appear. The chair was taken by Mr. J. Dunn, of Manchester. Mr. O'Connor spoke at some length. His remedy for Irish distress was to sell the property of the Irish church. The present holders had no just title to it, and let it be sold at thirty years' purchase, it would fetch £50,000,000. Give him this and he would locate half a million of Irish labourers upon it, than whom none were more industrious, which at five to the family would be a provision at once for 2,500,000 people. He then exhorted the people, both chartists and repealers, to sign the monster petition he was getting up to the House of Commons, and sign it with both hands, "that they might have a good grasp of their pens, and give it a good bold flourish." He called upon the chartists and repealers to unite, and not content with a simple promise sealed with cries of "yes" he literally exacted an oath from the vast meeting that it should be a real union or fraternization, and no sham. Mr. Meagher would go back in this confidence, that if a foul act was done on that day, [the monster meeting in Dublin] if a hand was stretched out to strike them, there would be hands stretched out to revenge them [vehement cheering]. The appeal would not now be to the House of Lords. The time had gone by for appealing to inferior tribunals; for everywhere upon this earth the sovereign people had assumed their sovereignty [loud cheers]. Mr. Dohenny said if what he had heard to-night was chartism, he was a convert henceforth to the charter, and should go back to-morrow to danger in Ireland, and, with the support of the English people, they should go back to meet it exultingly. The terms of union which they offered were these—Ireland for the Irish, and England for the English. Should they have an union on those terms? [Yes]. It was said that Mitchell would be arrested, and perhaps executed on a gibbet in Dublin. If Mitchell was injured, the gibbet must remain standing for one after another of them [tremendous cheering]. Nay, more, before they hung him (Mitchell), they must execute the whole of them on the streets [great applause].

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Considerable alarm and anxiety was created last week amongst old ladies of both sexes by the circumstance of the Chartists announcing that they intended holding public meetings in the Lecture-rooms in Nelson-street. The police were centred at the principal station, and we have it upon pretty good authority, the military were under arms at the barracks. The first meeting was held on Monday evening—the second on Tuesday evening; on both occasions the spacious hall was crowded to the door. Mr. West, lecturer to the Chartist Association, was the principal speaker: the topic, "The Charter—get it peaceably if you can, forcibly if you must." The meetings were composed of working-men of the better sort, who did not seem to relish the physical force theory at all. On the Tuesday evening, after the lecture, the assembly resolved itself into a public meeting, and adopted a memorial, praying the Home Secretary to extend the royal clemency to Thompson and Dowson, the two poor fellows left for execution at the late Durham assizes. Everything passed off in the most perfect peace and good order.—On Wednesday evening a meeting of the Liberal supporters of Mr. Headlam, one of the members for the borough, was held at Wilkie's Temperance Hotel, when resolutions, strongly condemnatory of his votes against Mr. Horsman's and Mr. Hume's motions on the income-tax, and of his vote against a repeal of the window-tax, were passed. The Dissenters and progressive Liberals have found Mr. Headlam what we

promised them they would find him—a thick-and-thin supporter of the Whigs.—It is stated in Durham, that there is no probability that a reprieve will come to Thompson and Dowson, but that they will be hung next Saturday, victims to the sanguinary game-laws. We know the district, Cockfield, where these men belong to; and are pretty well certain, from the character of the people, that these executions, instead of deterring the bands of poachers located there, will only incite them to that wild and lawless vengeance that too often prove fearful in their results.—*From our Correspondent.*

IRELAND.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

DUBLIN, MARCH 17.—The elements were more furious to-day than the passions of the people. Wind and rain ushered in the anniversary of our patron saint, and continued throughout the day. The elemental conspiracy did not, however, prevent the wearers of the sacred symbol from perambulating the streets in considerable numbers. Never did a people less display a tendency to riot or disorder, and it was remarkable enough that not half-a-dozen drunken persons were seen in the streets between sunrise and sunset. Had you seen their tranquil demeanour you could not charge them with disaffection or disloyalty. Business went on in the usual course. No shops were shut. There were neither the symptoms of, nor preparations against, turbulence. There was, however, a marked gloom over the city, which was not dissipated by the very vigorous precautions of the government. The Castle yard was wont to be the theatre of pleasurable excitement on Patrick's day, and the bands assembled in the quadrangle played a variety of national airs. The viceroy, with his staff, appeared in the balcony, and ministered to the general enthusiasm in sporting a crop of "the green immortal shamrock." To-day on the contrary all was solitude and silence. The gates of the Castle were closed and guarded with armed jealousy. No "Patrick's Day," no "Garry Owen." All was cold and sulky gloom.

In the arrangements of the executive everything was done consistently with caution not to offend the eyes of the citizens with any military display. The only force which appeared throughout the day in the streets was the mounted police marching in long intervals, and an odd hussar or dragoon cloaked to the eyes. At all the selected points the military were stationed at an early hour; in the College, Post-office, Four Courts, Bank, Custom-house, Castle, Royal Barracks and Royal Hospital, &c. A party of a hundred men found a temporary guard-house in the beautiful examination-hall of the College, with all the statesmen, judges, philosophers of Ireland, looking down on the armed intruders. It was, I believe, the first time since the revolution that the clang of arms was heard within the peaceful walls of the university. The ward meetings took place in all quarters of the city, and were well attended.

MARCH 18.—The night has passed off with the utmost quiet. What is very remarkable was the absence of even a single ordinary shout, to omit everything resembling riot or disorder. Such a quiet Patrick's day was never passed in Ireland. Throughout the night the streets were utterly desolate, and the lanes and alleys, which once echoed with the roar of drunkenness, were undisturbed by any species of violence. The accounts from the country to-day are of a similar pacific character. Cork, Limerick, Newry, Monahan, Derry, with many other places, maintained the most perfect order. The troops still occupy their positions in the various quarters of the city, and will continue so until Monday. The military stationed in the barracks are allowed their liberty to-day, and move freely throughout the city.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC.—MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM.—The great meeting to sympathize with the French Republic, was held on Wednesday at the Town Hall, and the entire proceedings, although characterised by considerable enthusiasm, passed off with the greatest good humour. Preparations, however, had been made by the military and police to provide against a disturbance. The police were fully prepared to act in case of necessity, while two pieces of ordnance, with a competent number of artillerymen from Woolwich, were stationed at Colleshill. The infantry in Birmingham were likewise re-enforced by 60 men from Weedon Barracks. The hall was densely crowded. Mr. Baldwin, a member of the Town-Council, was called to the chair. The following gentlemen were present—Alderman Weston, Mr. Joseph Sturge, Mr. Charles Sturge, Mr. John Collins, Mr. Salt, Mr. Mason, Mr. Blaxland, and the Rev. Arthur O'Neil. The following resolutions were passed:—

That this meeting hail with pleasure the triumph of democracy in France, and hereby sends its greetings to those heroic citizens whose noble example must ere long result in the subversion of despotism throughout the world.

An address to the French nation to the effect expressed in the first resolution was then passed, when the meeting, after being addressed by Mr. J. Sturge and others, separated.

MONMOUTH COUNTY ELECTION.—We understand that the election for the county of Monmouth, in the room of Lord Granville Somerset, will not pass off without a contest, and that, too, a very close one; a requisition having been got up by the partisans of the late Lord Granville Somerset, to Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., of Tredegar Park, which it is said he has accepted.

MR. VINCENT'S LECTURES.

HENRY VINCENT AT COGGESHALL.—On Wednesday and Thursday, March the 8th and 9th, Mr. Henry Vincent delivered two lectures in the Infant School-room. The subjects were—"The present position of parties viewed in relation to the people's rights; the game of the aristocracy; the progress of public opinion throughout Europe; our difficulties at the present crisis; the necessity of a thorough reform in Parliament; and the necessity of promoting the intelligence and virtue of the masses." The attendance was highly encouraging, nearly 300 persons being present each night, and consisted of nearly every shade of political opinion, from the staunch conservative to the complete suffragist. The time of commencing was eight o'clock, and though Mr. Vincent continued his addresses till after ten, the most fixed attention was kept up till the last; all parties joined in applauding him. At the close of the second lecture Mr. Kay (Independent minister), in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Vincent, said,—"That if his opinions did not coincide with the lecturer's he should have been exceedingly delighted with his eloquent addresses; and he had much pleasure in taking this humble part in the proceedings of the evening, because he wished it to be manifest that he had no sympathy with those who thought that Christian ministers should have nothing to do with politics; he considered politics to be an essential part of Christian duty, and was anxious to see Christianity brought to bear its proper influence upon them. He congratulated Mr. Vincent that he was not a member of Parliament yet, because he believed him to be doing incalculably more good out of doors. He was happy to express his cordial approval of the great principles of action advocated by Mr. Vincent,—viz., that all real progress must be based upon individual excellence; that all individual excellence is based upon the principles of Christianity; and that all reform must be achieved by moral and peaceful means alone." The motion was seconded by Mr. C. Smith (of the Society of Friends), and passed with much enthusiasm; the audience to a great extent rising and loudly cheering. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman (Mr. C. Moore), Mr. Vincent proposed one cheer for justice and liberty, which was heartily responded to. After it became generally known that Mr. Vincent had consented to visit Coggeshall, the friends of the temperance cause were anxious to secure his services in its aid. Mr. Vincent agreed to deliver a lecture on the Friday evening, on "temperance and education." It was to have been in the School-room, but, in consequence of the heat and pressure on the previous evenings, the use of the Independent chapel was granted for the occasion. About 700 persons were present. Mr. Vincent appeared much gratified by his reception in Coggeshall, and expressed a hope that he should visit it again shortly, which was met by his audience with a hearty cheer. The fears of some of the neighbouring gentry proved to be quite groundless; there has been no riot in the town in consequence of Mr. Vincent's lectures, and, on Saturday morning, the school-rooms and chapel were standing in exactly the same position as they were a week previous.

CARLISLE.—Under the general title of "Reform Addresses," Mr. Henry Vincent has this week given a series of three lectures at the Athenæum, in this city, to very respectable and crowded audiences. The first lecture was on Monday evening, and embraced general politics—the development of popular power—the purity of elections—and the duty of electors at the present crisis of European affairs. The lecturer, in his usual able and eloquent manner, laid bare the present aspect of the political world—made a brief recapitulation of the recent occurrences in France, and pronounced a beautiful peroration on the magnanimity displayed by the French people in their conduct during the perilous period of conflict, and their subsequent firmness and moderation, which had gained them the esteem and sympathy of all the Christian world.—On Tuesday evening, the subject was further pursued by an investigation into the principles of peace, when the lecturer demonstrated most effectually the humbug of the invasion cry which had for some time been rung in our ears; and convinced his hearers that other motives than those which the general public ascribed to it were at the bottom of this "National Defence" movement. He then gave a general review of taxation, strongly condemning the mode in which taxes were at present levied; and censured, in strong terms, the unjustness of some taxes, and the great inequality of our general system of taxation.—On Wednesday evening, the important and much vexed question of civil and religious liberty occupied the lecturer. He took a discursive view of the state of religion in this country, and in Germany, Austria, and Italy, during the earlier part of the reign of Henry VIII., the struggles of Martin Luther against the despotic power of the Pope, the refusal of the Pope to grant Henry the VIIIth a divorce, and that King's consequent repudiation of the Pope's power in these realms—the overthrow of the Roman Catholic Church in this country—the establishment of Protestant Episcopalianism—the unity of Church and State—the growth of dissent—the progress of puritanical principles—the rise of the Quakers—the ultimate toleration of dissenters—the bribe by royal gift, or *regium donum*, as it was more elegantly termed—and finally, the present shattered state of "the establishment," and the prospect of its ultimate disembodiment from all its meretricious externals, with the emancipation of real religion from all sectarian trammels, of whatever nature, name, or party. The recent election to the Bishopric of Hereford was treated by the lecturer in a most facetious manner: and the doings at our

election came in for a share of the lecturer's humour and satire. After some passing remarks on the duty of churchmen and dissenters at this time, he concluded a most delightful lecture by an invocation to the spirits of the departed martyrs of religion, and the old writers, as we term them, whom he highly eulogized, and wound up in a grand peroration with one of those thrilling apostrophes which at once electrify and delight an audience, and which, on any popular subject, may be said to be "peculiarly his own." Mr. Vincent goes to Whitehaven and Cockermouth to deliver lectures, and proposes to give another treat to the inhabitants of Carlisle on his return, commencing on Monday night next.—*Carlisle Journal.*

WHITEHAVEN.—On Friday and Saturday nights Mr. Vincent addressed two large and enthusiastic meetings in this town, on the present state of public affairs, and civil and religious liberty. The town itself is a Tory-ridden borough, under the influence of Lord Lonsdale—but these meetings have been significant signs of the times: and not a few were astonished to find how cordially the thorough-going sentiments of Henry Vincent were received. He promises to return as soon as possible, to address still larger meetings in the theatre.

THE CHINESE JUNK.—This vessel, named the "Keying," which has for the last eight or nine months been exhibited in New York and Boston as being one of the greatest curiosities that ever floated in the Western waters, arrived here on Wednesday, bound to London, 29 days out. She was picked up by the cutter "Pierson," a bullock vessel, trading between this and Portrieux, when lying at anchor a few miles to the westward of Rock Dauvergne. The crew of the smack observing this leviathan in a very dangerous situation, with wind and tide fast setting her upon the rock, bore down upon her; and, putting two hands on board, offered to take her into safe anchorage. A parley ensued as to what might be the freight of the cutter, which was £25: the captain of the junk agreed to give double that sum, which being acceded to, the "Pierson" brought her safe into the large roads. The public were soon made acquainted with her arrival by the town-crier, who announced that boats were ready at the North Pier to carry off passengers. A great many availed themselves of the opportunity, and have continued to do so up to the present time. The captain started for London on Thursday, to procure a steam-tug to convey the junk to London, where she is to be exhibited. We present our readers with a description of this extraordinary vessel:—In shape, as in the manner of structure, the "Keying" is unlike a European vessel. She resembles a whale boat in form, and is capable of greater speed than her appearance indicates. Nearly the whole vessel is made of teak wood, and her rudder, weighing seven tons, is so suspended by bamboo cables, as to be hoisted or lowered at ease. Her anchors are made of iron wood. She is 150 feet long, 25 feet beam, and 12 feet hold, with general good proportion. Her cabin is large and airy, being 30 feet long, 20 wide, and 10½ high, hung with a profusion of ornaments and paintings of wild beasts. Her masts are very upright, and hung with latteen sails, which are managed from the deck, as the Celestial sailors dislike climbing. Her colours are as unique as her build, her sides being painted white from the stern to the foremast, and red from thence to the stem, with a black strip of waist. Two huge and very knowing eyes perforate her bows, and her stern rises like a pagoda, some five feet higher than a full grown battle ship. Her ports, nine on each side, are coloured black, white, and red. She was nine months on her voyage to America, encountering some severe weather, and sailing at times twelve knots an hour. She has several idols on board, mostly representing females, with abundance of arms, and ornamented with various trinkets. Besides these she has a large quantity of curiosities, embracing Chinese dogs with ink-black tongues, monkeys, pigeons, beautiful carvings in wood, with domestic utensils, fancy works, pictures, &c. She carries no "water-casks," that article being kept in teak cans. Her masts are also teak. Bamboo and the bark of trees serve for rope throughout the vessel. She is now under canvas, and will re-mount her latteen sails when she arrives in London. The crew consists of 30 men—all Yankees.—*Jersey Christian Record.*

SINGULAR FULFILMENT OF A PROPHECY.—In *Raphael's Prophetic Messenger* for 1848 a prediction is put forth that a revolution would take place in February, in one of the continental countries, resulting in the overthrow of a royal family. At the same time the title-page has an engraving representing an attack on the Tuileries. The singular passage alluded to is—"Jupiter halts in his celestial career through Cancer, as if to ponder upon impending woes. These highly-fraught configurations are tokens of the vacation of a throne, and, it may be, the annihilation of sovereign power in a family." Some interesting foreshadowings of the events that have just occurred appear also in the remarks on the scheme of Louis Philippe's nativity in the same work.—*Liverpool Albion.*

AN EXTRAORDINARY HYPOCHONDRIAC.—There is at present residing at Johnstown, county Kilkenny, a gentleman of the name of Darmody, who, in one of those singular freaks of imagination, fancied that by constantly partaking of the flesh of geese, he will become possessed of a perfect coating of feathers, under which delusion he makes purchases of enormous quantities. This is a fact well known in the locality.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

The *London Times* of Wednesday last contained the extraordinary number of 1722 advertisements.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

(Continued from page 193.)

GERMANY.

The Diet of Frankfurt is already occupied with the preliminary steps for the formation of the desired Parliament, and has thrown a sop to the people in the shape of a German national flag, displaying the old eagle of the empire and the Imperial colours, black, red, and gold. This measure has been most popular, the bands are worn by everyone, in the shape of a small cockade, and some enthusiastic citizens have decorated their pigeons, cocks and hens—nay, even the asses march about the streets arrayed in the German tricolour. The *Allgemeine Zeitung* has proposed the adhesion of every state in Germany to the Zollverein, the revenue of which is to be thrown into the coffers of the Imperial Parliament for the common use.

FRANKFORT-ON-THAINE, MARCH 13.—To-day's news brings intelligence of the following converts, all of whom have promised a free press:—The King of Saxony, the Elector of Hesse Cassel, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, and the free town of Hamburg, so that more than one-half of Germany has obtained the elements of freedom, and many of the powers have promised the fullest measures of reform. The Elector gave way at the last moment. The deputation from Hanau remained at Cassel until Saturday, when the three days accorded by the ultimatum expired. The Elector having given no answer they were about to return home, but were detained by the townspeople, who, armed with muskets, swords, and pikes, accompanied them to the Electoral Palace. Some rioting ensued, and eventually the Elector solemnly promised to grant all that had been required of him; upon which the crowd quietly dispersed. A new Ministry has been formed.

FRANKFORT-ON-THAINE, MARCH 16.—The remainder of this month is pregnant with events of momentous importance to all Germany. On the 20th the Congress of her Sovereign Powers will be held at Dresden. They will there determine how Germany shall best prepare herself against attack from without. They will also decide upon such measures of constitutional reform as they are willing to grant, and upon what wider base they will found the Germanic Confederation. On the 30th the Heidelberg delegates meet at Frankfurt, where they will be joined by many other Liberal deputies. The decision of the Congress will then be known, and will be compared with the plan of a constitution prepared by the Heidelberg committee, which is now nearly ready.

Rumour says that a secret alliance has been entered into between Austria and Russia; and the recent loan, and the advance of 60,000 men to the Galician frontier, under the orders of Prince Paskewitch, seemingly confirm it, and a universal cry has been raised in Germany against an alliance with the Czar.

INSURRECTION IN WURTEMBERG AND BADEN.—The peasants are ravaging the country districts of Wurtemberg, and the hereditary castles of the nobility are burned or razed. Prince Hohenlohe's two residences, Niederstettin and Oehringen, have fallen; also Assumstadt, Schwaigern, and the celebrated Jaxthausen. The rising of the peasants in Wurtemberg and Baden is gaining ground. A letter from Stuttgart, of the 11th, says:—"Travellers who have just arrived here from Hechingen state that the whole of that principality was up in arms, and that they demand abolition of all taxes. The Duke has sought safety in flight." Another letter from Stuttgart says:—"The Duke of Hechingen has this moment arrived, having fled from his dominions. The whole of the Wurtemberg Oberland is in a state of revolution. No less than seven castles are reported to have been burnt down last night." The *Carlsruhe Gazette* says:—"Large bodies of peasantry are scouring the country, carrying fire and destruction along with them; a fearful spirit has been aroused, and energetic measures should be taken by all good men to put it down."

HESSIE CASSEL.—The States of Hesse Cassel were opened on the 13th. A proposition for the accusation of the Minister of Finance, Motz, and of the State Councillor, Schaefer, has been authorized by the Chamber and sent to a special commission to be examined. Before the Duke of Hesse Cassel capitulated to his people, they had barricaded his streets; piling up large trees, waggons, and stones, with a frieze of plough-shares, which they scoured the country to collect.

The Duke of Saxe-Meiningen has "pronounced" in the most liberal manner.

HOHENZOLLERN.—A very serious movement took place, on the 11th of March, at Feihingen, capital of one of the little principalities of Hohenzollern. A popular assembly took place in the vicinity of the castle. Several demands were addressed to the government, which conceded them eagerly; but the people would not leave before each parish had received the official decree which conceded to them the reforms they claimed; all the functionaries who were not natives of the principality were driven away.

Lola Montez has been back to Munich in disguise; but has been apprehended by the King's orders, and sent away from the town, on the way back to Lindau. The King of Bavaria is very popular.

HOLLAND.

At the beginning of last week, Amsterdam and the surrounding country were in a great ferment, on account of the half-measures of reform proposed by the Government. Leyden had petitioned, and a general outbreak was feared. On Tuesday, the King, by an unexpected movement, distanced all his advisers.

Early that day, he sent a message to the Legislative Chamber, desiring that the House itself should take the initiative, and propose all those changes and reforms in the Government of the people and the fundamental law which it might deem necessary and expedient; the Royal consent being promised to all proposals. The King at the same time made the strange declaration, that he had adopted this sudden change of policy without the knowledge of his Ministers! The Cabinet has resigned, as a matter of course; and a new Ministry was about to be formed, on a Liberal basis. The people are in the greatest joy; more significant—the stocks have sensibly risen. On the 17th a decree was issued nominating a committee to revise the constitution. The propositions of the committee are as follows:—

1. Abolition of dignities in as far as by the present fundamental law the Chambers exercise public rights as a constituted body.
2. The regularization of the mode of elections.
3. The maintenance of the First Chamber of the States-General, with reforms in that body.
4. Right of the Second Chamber to propose amendments in the projects of law presented by the King.
5. Privilege of the two Chambers to present separate addresses to the King.
6. The maintenance of the clause, "The King is inviolable; the Ministers are responsible."
7. Regulation of the responsibility of the Ministers.
8. Right of the King to dissolve the Second Chamber.
9. Question of the non-equal influence of the States-General on the legislation of the colonies, as in that of the mother country.
10. Changes in the fundamental law, by which the budget of the receipts and expenditure of the State shall be fixed for one year.
11. Introduction of the principle that an account of the receipts and expenditure of the State shall be submitted to the legislative power.
12. Publicity of the sitting of the First Chamber of the Provincial States and Communal Councils.
13. Organization of the judicial military power to be regulated.
14. Modification of the fundamental law, by which changes can be introduced into the law.
15. That all the laws referring to the new electoral system shall be presented to the Second Chamber, in the session immediately succeeding that in which the revision of the fundamental law shall have been made.

Intelligence had been received of the death of Prince Alexander of the Netherlands at Lisbon.

BELGIUM.

The members of the great Liberal Association of Belgium, L'Alliance, were to meet on the 17th inst. in order to discuss the following questions:—1. Dissolution of the Chambers after they have voted parliamentary reform and the abolition of the stamp duty on newspapers. 2. Abolition of all duties on alimentary substances. 3. Protection of national independence, without any ideas of hostility towards France, and the greatest possible reduction of the army budget. 4. Reduction of the expenditure for salaries, ambassadors, the military, marine, &c., in order by that economy to assist the lower branches of trade and industry.

RUSSIA.

A letter from St. Petersburg announces the approaching departure of the Emperor Nicholas for Berlin, and of the Empress for the island of Madeira, where she has been ordered by her physicians to pass some time.

SUPPRESSION OF FRENCH NEWS IN RUSSIA.—Letters from Berlin of the 11th inst., state that intelligence of the late events in Paris reached the Emperor of Russia on the 1st inst., by means of the electric telegraph established on the line between Warsaw and Petersburg. The French papers which arrived in that capital in due course on the 3rd were stopped at the Post-office, while the *Gazette* of St. Petersburg announced that its daily publication would cease until the 7th inst. This sudden suspension of the official journal struck every one with consternation; but in the meantime the members of the nobility and foreign residents succeeded in learning the details of the Revolution from their friends in the different embassies. In this way the whole city was gradually informed as to what had occurred at Paris, and, as may readily be imagined, was thrown into a state of the greatest private excitement.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

NAPLES, MARCH 10.—Lord Minto is gone with the squadron to Palermo, and will have a cordial reception. The king has ceded every point the Sicilians demanded, even to the recognition of Admiral Ruggiero Settimo as viceroy, in lieu of a member of the royal family! The parliament is convoked for the 25th inst. England guarantees the Constitution of 1812, and thus insures the tranquillity of Sicily.

The citadels of Messina and Syracuse will continue with the royal garrisons until a commission can decide upon the point. In case of dissent, the Grand Duke Leopold of Tuscany and the King Charles Albert will be appointed to arbitrate, an appeal being reserved to Pope Pius IX.

STRANGE DISCOVERY OF A BURGLAR.—A gentleman, named Dutton, aged 80, of the Brynne, near Wrexham, Flintshire, was listening in bed to his clock striking the hour of 12 at midnight, when to his surprise the last six strokes sounded much louder than the former. The old gentleman naturally supposed that a door had been opened; upon listening, he heard the jingling of keys, and to his astonishment he was but too fully convinced that an intruder had entered his bedroom, and was about to take the contents of his bureau. He immediately jumped out of bed, and clasped an individual having on a fustian coat; he held him tightly, and called lustily for assistance. The thief carried the fearless old gentleman through two rooms, when his son-in-law and wife arrived, who succeeded in capturing the burglar, who is now safely lodged for trial in the county gaol. It appears the scoundrel had only been dismissed from the service about three weeks.—*Kentish Gazette*.

COURT, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

ACCOUCHEMENT OF HER MAJESTY.—BIRTH OF A PRINCESS.—The subjoined announcement was issued on Saturday morning:—

Buckingham Palace, March 18, 1848.

This morning, at eight o'clock, the Queen was safely delivered of a Princess.

In the room with her Majesty were his Royal Highness Prince Albert, Dr. Locock, and Mrs. Lilly, the monthly nurse. And in the rooms adjoining were the other medical attendants, Sir James Clark and Dr. Ferguson; and also her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Lady in Waiting on the Queen, and the Ministers and officers of State summoned on the occasion.

The Privy Councillors present were Sir George Grey, Secretary of State for the Home Department; Sir Charles Wood, Chancellor of the Exchequer; the Duke of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief; the Earl Spencer, Lord Chamberlain; the Duke of Norfolk, Master of the Horse; the Earl of Auckland, First Lord of the Admiralty; Lord Campbell, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; Earl Grey, Secretary of State for the Colonies; Mr. Labouchere, President of the Board of Trade; and Earl Fortescue, Lord Steward.

The Queen is going on very well. The diplomatic corps, and all the nobility and gentry in town, have made frequent calls at the Palace, to inquire after the health of the Queen.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF MONTPENSIER.—The sudden departure of the Duke and Duchess of Montpensier for Germany, on Thursday last, has naturally enough caused considerable surprise; more particularly as it took place before the expected arrival of the Duke of Ahumada, who had been commissioned by the Queen of Spain to invite her sister to Madrid. It is now, however, stated that their departure was caused by the discovery of a correspondence in the Tuileries, which, being communicated to the British Government, rendered the residence of those august personages in this country as disagreeable to the Court of St. James's as it would have been unpleasant to themselves. It is added, that they left in conformity with an intimation from the Foreign Office.—*Daily News*, Thursday.—We are happy to be enabled to contradict a paragraph which found its way into our columns from those of a morning contemporary. [The one above.] We are truly glad to find that it was erroneous in every particular; the departure of the Duke and Duchess having, as we now learn, been entirely spontaneous; having taken place after, and not before, the arrival of the Duke de Ahumada in London; and not having been in consequence of any discovery made at the Tuileries, nor of any intimation, from any quarter, that their presence in this country would be disagreeable to the Court of St. James's.—*Globe*, Friday.—It is freely reported in town that the young Duke and Duchess have departed for Spain, and at the suggestion of the Count de Neuilly. If so, the Count had better be made aware of Sir Robert Peel's observations respecting intrigues against foreign governments carried on in this country.—*Spectator*.

ENGLISH EMIGRANTS FROM FRANCE.—Lord Ashley announces that the Queen and Prince Albert have subscribed £200 on behalf of the English workmen driven from France. A committee is in process of being organized; and Messrs. Herries and Farquhar are the bankers. Every means have been employed by Government for the transit of the unfortunate emigrants from France, and the Admiralty have issued directions to the dockyard authorities at Portsmouth and Plymouth to prepare vessels for the reception of distressed British subjects compelled to leave France by the malcontents of the present revolution. In compliance with this order, the "Veteran" receiving hulk (formerly a 74-gun ship) at Portsmouth, and a similar class of ship at Plymouth, are being fitted for the accommodation of the expected arrivals; and as merchant tonnage will not be at such convenient command for the shipment of the masses now awaiting passage to the hospitable shores of Great Britain, the Admiralty intend to equip and send out steamers to the coast of France for this benevolent and national object. It is on this service that the steamers now so expeditiously fitting out at Portsmouth are to be despatched.

VISCOUNT HARDINGE, accompanied by Colonel Lawrenson, Lieutenant-Colonel Wood, and his Lordship's two sons, arrived from Ostend on Wednesday morning, and came to town by the Blackwall Railway.

LORD BROUGHAM's illness has been a very severe quinsy. His Lordship is convalescent; and hopes to leave Cannes for England on the 28th instant, *via* Paris.

THE COUNT AND COUNTESS DE NEUILLY visited the Duchess of Kent on Saturday, at Clarence-house, to congratulate her Royal Highness on her Majesty's happy confinement.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S HEALTH.—It gives us much pleasure to be able to state that Lord John Russell has almost entirely recovered from his recent indisposition. His Lordship attended a Cabinet Council at the Foreign Office yesterday (Saturday), and was present at the performance of the Italian Opera last night. The temporary illness of the Premier was confined to an attack of the prevailing epidemic of the season, and has yielded, as was expected, to change of air and to slight relaxation from public business. The rumours respecting any more serious or permanent illness were entirely destitute of foundation.—*Observer*.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN.—A deputation from the Committee of the Associate Institution had interviews on Thursday with Lord Campbell, and the Lord Bishop of Oxford, on the Bill for the Suppres-

sion of Trading in Seduction and Prostitution, about to be submitted to the House of Lords.

Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to command that the fancy sale which is to take place at Willis's Rooms, on the 16th and 17th days of May, for the Orphan Working School, Haverstock-hill, shall be under her immediate patronage.

LITERATURE.

Penny Tracts for Fustian Jackets and Smock Frocks. By Rev. B. PARSONS. London: Snow, Paternoster-row.

THE author of these tracts is already known by several works on which the public have pronounced a favourable verdict. Earnestness of purpose, vigour of thought, and freshness of language and illustration, are characteristic of them all, and have secured for each deserved popularity. The tracts under review are, in all these respects, worthy of their predecessors; and we cordially desire for them an extensive circulation. Their general design is to win the confidence and affection of the working classes to Christianity, by exhibiting it as the determined foe of social wrong and oppression, and as the constant friend of liberty and right. This truth has been too much overlooked, and the importance of making it prominent at the present time cannot be overrated. When the true gospel shall be presented to the people in its proper character, and full comprehensiveness of purpose, the false views which spurious forms of it have engendered in their minds, will be quickly dissipated, and the immediate obstacle to their paying a respectful attention to its claims will be entirely removed. We thank Mr. Parsons for his able contributions towards this most desirable object. His tracts, widely circulated, will do much good. They are admirably fitted for the classes to which they are addressed. They come out monthly, and seven of the series have been published.

Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister—not Forbidden by the Law of Nature—not Dissuaded by Expediency—not Prohibited by the Scriptures; including an Examination of Professor Bush's Notes on Leviticus. By the Rev. J. F. DENHAM, M.A., F.R.S. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Stationers' Hall-court.

THIS is a very able pamphlet. The subject of which it treats is one of peculiar interest and importance at the present crisis, and the arguments employed by the author in support of the positions he lays down are very clearly stated, and, in our judgment, triumphantly wielded. Without pledging ourselves to everything the writer has advanced, we cordially recommend the pamphlet to our readers as a masterly production on a subject of the greatest moment to a large portion of the community. It is high time that the law of the land was finally settled on this vital question; and it is equally important to the social and moral interests of the public that it should be adjusted to meet the views so ably advocated by our author.

The Sunday School Union Magazine for 1847.—Notes on the Scripture Lessons for 1847. London: Sunday School Union, 60, Paternoster-row.

THE former of these two volumes is a re-issue of the monthly magazines of the Union for the past year in one volume. It is a very instructive and interesting book, comprising a wide range of subjects, and displaying a considerable amount of ability. The spirit it breathes is that of deep and earnest piety. All Sunday-school teachers should make an effort to procure it. The heads of families, also, would do well to put it into the hands of the younger members of their domestic circle, and of their servants.

The other volume is, as the title signifies, a series of notes or comments upon the passages of Scripture selected and published by the Union as lessons for each Sabbath in the year. It is a reprint of papers from the monthly magazine, and is designed, we presume, to answer the purpose of a key to the lessons. It explains whatever needs explanation in the passages for the day, and suggests many important reflections both of a doctrinal and of a practical nature. In schools where there is no minister, or sufficiently intelligent superintendent, to propose scriptural lessons for the teachers, this publication cannot fail to prove of the greatest service. We are of opinion, however, that the lessons are too long to enable the teachers to do justice either to the passages they have to explain or to their children. It would be a great improvement, in our judgment, if the lessons were curtailed, and a few general questions upon them appended for the use of the superintendent, that he might examine the entire school at the close of the day. This would stimulate the ambition of both teachers and children, and in many other ways exert a healthful influence upon the general interests of the school. We have taken the liberty to offer these suggestions because we feel deeply interested in the subject. We look upon Sabbath Schools as of secondary importance to no institutions in the world—unless, indeed, it be the Christian ministry itself. We, nevertheless, heartily commend the publication under consideration to our readers in its present form as eminently adapted to usefulness—the most so of any work we are acquainted with. Our critique is not intended to depreciate its merits, but rather to submit for consideration what we think might enhance the efficiency of the present plan.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS.—With the beginnings of the Old Red Sandstone a slight change takes place in the colouring of the prospect. There is a flush of ochery red over yonder shallow, where the wave beats on the ferruginous sand; the skerry beyond seems darkened with sea-weed; and though we are still, as before, out of sight of land, and so can know little of its productions, we may see a minute branch of club moss floating past, and the trunk of some coniferous tree, and can, in consequence, at least determine that land there is. But mark how brightly the depths gleam with the mirror-like reflection of scales—scales resplendent with enamel, that owe their name—*ganoid*, or glittering—to their brilliancy. How strangely uncouth the forms of these ancient denizens of the deep, and, in some instances, how monstrous their size! Yonder, swimming leisurely a few feet under the surface, as if watching the play of a distant shoal of *Diplopteri*, is the ponderous *Astirolepis*,—its glassy eyes set in their triangular sockets, as in some families of snakes, immediately over its mouth,—its head armed with a dermal covering of bone, from which a musket-bullet would rebound as from a stone wall,—its body tiled over with oblong scales, delicately carved, like the inlaid mail of a warrior,—its jaws furnished with their outer tier of minute thickly set fish teeth, and their inner tier of reptile-teeth greatly bulkier than those of the crocodile, and set at wider intervals, after the sauroid pattern. And yonder—a member of the same family, of larger scale and more squat, though somewhat less colossal in its proportions—swims the strong *Holoptichius*. The numerous flights of *Pterichthys*, with their compact bodies, spread wings, and rudder-like tails, resemble flocks of submarine birds; the plated *Coccosteus* and the broad *Glyptolepis* flap heavily along the bottom; crowds of minute *Cheiracanthi*, with all their various cognates, bristling with spines, and poised on membranaceous, scale-covered fins, dart hither, thither, and athwart, in the green stratum above; while dimly seen, a huge Crustacean creeps slowly over the ribbed sand beneath. But ages and centuries pass in quick succession as the waves roll along the surface—species and genera pass away, families become extinct, races perish; the rocks of the Old Red Sandstone, holding in their stony folds their numerous strange organisms, are all laid down, as those of the Grauwacke had been previously deposited; and the scene changes as the unsummed periods of the system reach their close.—*The Bass Rock.*

THE HUDSON RIVER.—The sources of the Hudson must be sought in those wilds of the state of New York which lie in the interior between Lake Ontario and Lake Champlain. The tide of immigration setting westward through the valley of the Mohawk, or eddying about the shores of those lakes, has insulated that region of country, and it remains to this day almost a wilderness. Within a morning's ride from the springs of Saratoga, where luxury and fashion keep holiday from June to September, one can find oneself in a solitude that would become the Rocky Mountains. The amateur Daniel Boone may there roam through the primeval forest, and even yet snap his trigger at the wild buck, or engage the panther and bear. Starting from such a cradle, the Hudson, like a young Hercules playing with serpents, catches up a hundred little tributary brooks, and goes leaping and brawling through the woods till it finds itself a river. Then, gathering size and strength through every curve of its way, it turns eastward to seek its fortunes in the big world. As if on purpose to try its strength and power, it comes roaring to the rocks at Glenn's falls, and there flings itself down in a froth, with the air of a stripling who signalizes his majority by a terrible outbreak from parental restraint. Then, with a graceful sweep that seems the result of society upon the young forester's impetuosity, it turns its full tide into a picturesque valley, and, bending southward, begins its bright and prosperous career. Awhile it loiters along, now winding through meadows, now murmuring through glens; and then, catching to its strong embrace the lovely Mohawk, that comes down with her roar of waters to meet it, the espoused Hudson, with a new dignity, that soon swells into majesty, takes its straight and glorious course through sloping uplands and mountain passes, to lose itself in the sea. From the point where it receives the Mohawk, full a hundred and fifty miles above New York, the Hudson becomes navigable for vessels with keels. Higher up, it floats only the flat-boat and canoe. Ascending its banks till they turn abruptly westward, you have but twenty miles land-travel to the head of Lake Champlain; from which a delightful trip through a hundred miles of mountain scenery brings you fairly into Canada. Or, if you follow up the river to Glenn's falls, 'tis only a rambler's walk to the head of Lake George, whose quiet and unburdened waters are out of the thoroughfare, but, lying parallel with Lake Champlain, return you to the direct line of travel through the ravines of its romantic outlet at Ticonderago. Thus, from the Mohawk to the St. Lawrence, through this charming section of America, you have everywhere a profusion of interest in the natural scenery; and whether you would see lake, mountain, river, or cataract, you may find them all to your taste, in a wilderness that retains somewhat of that fresh beauty which fancy attributes to the world before the flood.—*Blackwood's Magazine for March.*

The *Gazetta di Roma*, of the 3rd, contains a proclamation announcing the introduction into the Papal States of the decimal system of currency and monetary unit, which obtains in France, and has been established in Sardinia and Parma.

GLEANINGS.

The *Morning Chronicle* has ceased to be a Whig paper, and assumed a more unfriendly tone towards France than any other paper published in London.

The *Sheffield Times* gives currency to a statement that the stamp-duty on newspapers, now one penny, is to be reduced to one farthing; and the duty on advertisements, now 1s. 6d., to 6d. *Credat Judæis!*

The newspapers are parading a prophecy of the late French revolution, which they ascribe to Moore's Almanack for 1848, but which is nowhere to be found therein.—*Gateshead Observer.*

"Cleopatra's Needle," given by the Pacha of Egypt to our Government, and so long permitted to lie neglected, is to be immediately brought to England, and erected in some conspicuous place in London.

The *Madison Journal*, Louisiana newspaper, comprised on the 26th of November, 1847, an essay in praise of John Wesley, a morning hymn to the Creator, and James Hall's advertisement of his "pack of dogs to hunt runaway negroes!"

The *Times* says of Sir Robert Peel, when he wishes to shirk any point in the House, "he slides, cuts, poussettes, capers, and sets to his partner, and in a few minutes we find him back at his exact point of departure, looking as self-satisfied as though he had achieved a fair two miles."

WEST OF ENGLAND SOUP.—A bricklayer, having been employed by the parochial authorities of a village in the West of England, to set or hang two boilers, alias coppers, for a soup establishment, sent in his bill as follows:—

"The gentlemen of ——— dr. to John Jackson,
To hanging 2 coppers to make soup for the pore."

In the bustle of the late French revolution, several families, whose numbers had been reduced by natural deaths, got their dead buried at the expense of the Republic, as slain patriots!

The *Gentleman's Gazette* states that the Calcutta Mesmeric Hospital, "after a career of great usefulness, is closed." Chloroform is in successful use in India.

The *Doncaster Gazette*, on "authority, from a most indubitable source," denies that Sir R. Peel ever stipulated with the Queen that he should not be recalled to office.

The *Glasgow Examiner* announces that several thousands are in arms in London—the babies.

The Boston depot for lost children during 1847 rest red 1,500 stray children to their parents.

The *Lancet* states that from a series of experiments made at the Bicêtre (Paris), it has been demonstrated that by ether inhalations a fit of epilepsy may be induced at will in those liable to them, and that chloroform brings it on still more rapidly.

Burritt's Christian Citizen informs us that the temperance associations in New York are taking measures to make the reception of Father Mathew one of the most imposing demonstrations of the kind ever witnessed.

[Advertisement.]—The Seal of Public Approbation has been set, most indelibly, upon JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEES. Their peculiarly rich and mellow flavour, combined with their great strength, excites the admiration of all who use them. Another most important fact connected with these Coffees is, that they will go much further than the kinds ordinarily in use; hence, a great saving is effected in families. Nor must it be forgotten, that John Cassell's Coffees are sold at prices which have hitherto been given for very inferior kinds. It is his intention to appoint Agents in every Town throughout the United Kingdom. For particulars, apply immediately to JOHN CASSELL, Abchurch-lane, London.

GALVANISM.—[Advertisement.]—The following is extracted from the *Court Journal* of Jan. 29:—"It is now about four years since that we informed our readers, it was to be regretted galvanism was not more extensively used as a remedial agent. We have every reason to believe that our advice was attended to, for, in a comparatively short time, Mr. Halse's residence was crowded with the élite of fashion, and their less fortunate fellow-sufferers; and we feel confident, judging from the astonishing remedial effects it has produced on ourselves, after all kinds of medicines and hydropathy had failed to impart any benefit, that the public will thank us for our recommendation. We were delighted to notice, a short time since, that Mr. Halse was patronised by the Lord Bishop of London and Sir Charles Clark, his lordship's physician. Mr. Halse's great reforms in the galvanic apparatus, and his improved methods of application, justly entitle him to rank as the head of his profession. We again recommend our readers to give galvanism a fair trial. Mr. Halse's residence is at 22, Brunswick-square, London."

BIRTHS.

March 7, the wife of Mr. JAMES PULSFORD, Baptist minister, Burton-upon-Trent, of a daughter.
March 11, the wife of Mr. J. CROFTS, Margate, of a daughter.
March 12, at 5, St. Thomas's-square, Hackney, Mrs. OHRLY, of a daughter.
March 17, at Denmark-hill, Mrs. JOHN JAMES SMITH, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

March 2, at Lake-street Chapel, Leighton Buzzard, by the Rev. E. Adey, Mr. BACHELOR BATTAMS, of Tottenham, to Miss MARY HOPKINS, of Leighton.
March 12, at Hatfield Chapel, by the Rev. S. Raban, Mr. WILLIAM CLARK to Miss ELIZABETH WORTLEY, both of that parish.
March 14, at Castle-gate Chapel, Shrewsbury, the Rev. E. Hill Mr. S. L. LEWIN, registrar of marriages, to Miss EMILY MURPHY both of that town.
March 15, at Albion-street Chapel, Ashton-under-Lyne, by the father of the bride, the Rev. S. CLARKSON, minister of Howard-street Chapel, Sheffield, to BETSY BUCKLEY, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. SUTCLIFFE, of Ashton-under-Lyne.
March 16, at Latimer, by the Rev. Lord Wriothsley Russell, the Viscount ENFIELD, M.P., eldest son of the Earl of Stratford, to HARRIET ELIZABETH, second daughter of the Hon. Charles and Lady Catherine CAVENDISH.

DEATHS.

March 9, at his residence, in Colmore-row, Birmingham, at the advanced age of 95, JAMES MEREDITH, Esq.
March 9, at Diosg, in her 79th year, Mrs. MARY ROBERTS, relict of the late Rev. John Roberts, of Llanbrynmair.
March 12, at Brackley, Northamptonshire, aged 15, WILLIAM ARTHUR, son of Rev. C. R. BLACKETT, minister of the Congregational church, Burnham, Norfolk.
March 13, at Bugbrooke, at the house of his uncle, Mr. Thomas Turland, of rapid consumption, in his 24th year, deeply regretted, JOSEPH, youngest son of Mr. Joseph BURBIDGE, of Bedford.
March 14, in her 86th year, MARIA, widow of the late Rev. T. HUNT, late of Upper Clapton.
March 16, ANN OLIVE, wife of the Rev. E. GILES, Newport, Isle of Wight.

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

In the midst of the revolutions on the Continent it is remarkable to observe how firmly public securities rule at home, sensitive as are generally the capitalists interested in them as holders. During the past week the fluctuations in Consols have only been to the extent of one per cent. Very little business has been done. Money is very plentiful at a low rate of interest. There appears to be less of apprehension amongst the moneyed classes than was the case a few days ago. Notwithstanding that we have received during the week the knowledge of the suspension of cash payments by the Bank of France, the public have been freely investing in the funds, and probably considerable sums have already found their way from the Continent which have been similarly appropriated.

The mercantile accounts from the Continent are still of the most unfavourable description, the failures of banking firms being reported from all quarters. At Frankfurt the house of Beyfus, Brothers, which occupied a high position, and which was understood within the last few weeks to have received considerable assistance, has been compelled to stop payment. At Lyons the suspension has been announced of Bontoux, De la Hante, and Co., an old house of the highest respectability; and from Paris a circular has been received from Mr. Leopold S. Königswater, communicating his stoppage.

The advices from Brussels state that the manufacturers of Courtrai and Roulers are seeking assistance, and demand analogous measures of relief to those granted to the towns of Ghent and Bruges.

There is very little doing in the Foreign Stock-market. Values remain, generally, unaltered.

Railway shares and debentures of every description are much depressed, and show symptoms of a reaction. The operations doing in them are limited. The average fall in the prices of the principal shares during the past week has been about from £1 to £2 per share.

From the subjoined statement of the daily fluctuation in Consols last week, it will be perceived that the rise and fall has been only to the extent of one per cent:—

Consols.	Lowest price.	Highest price.
Monday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½
Tuesday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½
Wednesday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½
Thursday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½
Friday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½
Saturday .. Money	80½	80½
" .. Account	80½	80½

From the manufacturing districts, the advices received are not of a cheerful tone. Trade suffers materially by the existing agitation, and the orders from abroad are very limited. The chief business at present is with the United States.

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, March 17.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday the 11th day of March, 1848.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	29,235,615
Government Debt ..	11,015,100
Other Securities ..	2,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion ..	12,792,267
Silver Bullion	1,413,328
£29,235,615	£29,235,615

Dated the 16th day of March, 1848.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' Capital ..	14,553,000
Reserve	3,984,871
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts)	6,853,063
Other Deposits	9,525,311
Seven-day and other Bills	839,622
£33,755,767	£33,755,767

Dated the 16th day of March, 1848.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnizing marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—
 Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Narberth, Pembrokeshire.
 Jude, and St. Andrew's Chapel, Seaton, Devon.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

WOOLF, AARON, Brighton, furniture broker.

BANKRUPTS.

ALLETSON, GEORGE, Junr., and TEBBS, JOHN WILKINSON, Wakefield, York, dyers, April 3 and 24: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Westmoreland and Taylor, Wakefield.

ASHBURY, SAMUEL, Handford, brick and tile manufacturer, March 28, April 25: solicitors, Mr. William Harding, Burslem; and Messrs. Spencer and Rollings, Waterloo-street, Birmingham.

BOWEN, JOHN, Liverpool, ale and porter dealer, March 30, April 20: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. Frodsham, Liverpool.

BRADICK, JAMES WALSH, Silvertown, Devon, brick and tile maker, March 30, April 25: solicitors, Mr. John Stogdon, Southernhay, Exeter; and Messrs. Keddell, Baker, and Grant, 34, Line-street, London.

BROWNE, EDWARD HENRY, Peckham Rye, and 13, Beaufort-

buildings, Strand, brickmaker, March 30, May 6: solicitor, [Mr. W. Hunter, 17, Bloomsbury-street, Bloomsbury.

BUTTERWORTH, THOMAS, Greenbooth-mills, near Rochdale, woollen manufacturer, March 31, April 20: solicitors, Messrs. J. Abbott, Lincoln's-inn-fields, London; Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester; and Messrs. Woods and Jackson, Rochdale.

CUBBINS, ROBERT, Trannere, Bebbington, Chester, builder, March 31, April 20: solicitors, Mr. Carpenter, Staple-inn, London; and Mr. Atkinson, Birkenhead.

DAMSELL, GEORGE, Lydbrook, grocer, March 31, May 2: solicitors, Mr. Bullock, Newnham; and Messrs. W. C. Bevan, Bristol.

EMERY, JOHN, Lichfield, tailor, March 30, April 22: solicitor, Mr. W. H. Reece, New-street, Birmingham.

HURLEY, JOSEPH HENRY, West Bromwich, draper, March 25, April 22: solicitors, Mr. B. Marshall, Barnsley, Yorkshire; and Mr. E. H. Tarleton, 80, New-street, Birmingham.

KENT, CHARLES, Ashbourn, draper, March 29, April 19: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., 61, Fountain-street, Manchester; and Messrs. Reed and Co., Friday-street, London.

KIR, WILLIAM, New Inn-yard, Tottenham-court-road, cabinet maker, March 30, May 6: solicitor, Mr. Stoddart, Curator-street, Chancery-lane.

KNOTTS, JAMES, Ipswich, victualler, March 30, May 6: solicitors, Mr. Kirk, Symond's-inn; and Mr. Galsworthy, Ipswich.

LURWAY, THOMAS, Adam and Eve Tavern, Hotwells, licensed victualler, March 31, May 4: solicitor, Mr. Callenden, Bristol.

MARTINDALE, DALTON, Star-court, Bread-street, City, warehouseman, March 31, May 2: solicitors, Messrs. W. and H. P. Sharp, 2, Verulam-buildings, Gray's-inn.

MCCARTHA, ISAAC LINDO, Liverpool, Lancaster, commission merchant, March 31, April 28: solicitors, Messrs. Sharpe and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Messrs. Lowndes, Robinson, and Bateson, Liverpool.

PHILLIPS, LENOX NUTHALL, Ship Tavern, Three Colt-street, Linthouse, licensed victualler, March 29, May 4: solicitors, Messrs. Symes, Weston, Teesdale, and Sandilands, Fenchurch-street.

PROCKTER, HENRY, Horsleydown, victualler, March 31, May 2: solicitor, Mr. A. Burn, 14, Great Carter-lane, Doctors'-commons.

ROBINSON, WILLIAM, Tuxford, Nottingham, publican, March 31, April 29: solicitors, Messrs. Pittendreich and Co., Gray's-inn, London; and Messrs. Wake and Co., Worksop.

SHAW, JOSEPH PHILIP, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, Middlesex, upholsterer, March 27, May 2: solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Chancery-lane.

SULLIVAN, JEREMIAH JOHN, Winsford, Chester, salt merchant and shipowner, March 30, April 20: solicitors, Mr. Carpenter, Staple-inn, London; and Mr. Daly, Liverpool.

TAYLOR, JAMES, Kings-mills, Almondsbury, York, clothier, March 30, April 27: solicitors, Messrs. Sudlow and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. Floyd, Huddersfield.

TREACHER, SAMUEL, High Wycombe, farmer, March 24, April 28: solicitors, Messrs. C. W. and C. H. Lovell, 14, South-square, Gray's-inn.

WEBSTER, ROBERT, Preston, linen draper, March 31, April 20: solicitors, Messrs. Gregory, Fankner, and Co., Bedford-row, London; and Mr. Ascroft, Preston.

WORSLEY, JOHN, Preston, cotton spinner, April 1, 15: solicitors, Mr. John Abbott, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Messrs. Atkinson and Co., Manchester.

WALKER, CHARLES, Birmingham, maltster and licensed victualler, March 30, April 29: solicitor, Mr. John Suckling, Cherry-street, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BARR, MATTHEW, draper, Paisley, March 22, April 12.

CLARK, ROBERT, farmer, West Fother, March 22, April 12.

CREE, ALEXANDER, upholsterer, Glasgow, March 23, April 13.

DEAS, MATTHEW, Wright, Broughty-ferry, March 25, April 17.

JAMIESON, ROBERT GLASGOW, flax spinner, Kilburnie, March 27, April 17.

MCLELLAN, DAVID, and STEVENSON, DAVID, merchants, Glasgow, March 22, April 12.

MCQUEEN, ANDREW, and ROBERTSON, JOHN, iron and tin plate merchants, Glasgow, March 21, April 11.

THOMSON, THOMAS, baker, Linlithgow, March 21, April 14.

DIVIDENDS.

Henry Griffiths, Chelford, Chester, innkeeper, second div. of 10d.; at 72, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—Thomas Hutchins, Hulme, Manchester, coach proprietor, first and final dividend of 4s. 7½d.; at 72, George-street, Manchester, any Tuesday—Louis Meunier, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, hotel keeper, first dividend of 2s. 7d.; at 12, Abchurch-lane, City, March 18 and two following Saturdays—William Coppen, Norwood, Surrey, grocer, first div. of 1s.; at 18, Aldermanbury, London, any Saturday—Alfred Gerard Robinson, Rethley, Leicestershire, woolstapler, first dividend of 4d.; at Mr. T. Bittleston's, High-street, Nottingham, on March 18 and every alternate Saturday—John Jordan, James White, and John Lewis Aldridge, Coventry, Warwickshire, brewers and maltsters, first div. of 3s. 9d. on the separate estate of John Lewis Aldridge, first div. of 20s. on the separate estate of John Jordan, and first div. of 2s. on the joint estate; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Friday—Josiah Austen, Devonport, draper, final div. of 6½d.; at F. Herniman's, Paul-street, Exeter, any day after March 21—Lesley Alexander and William Bargett, 53, Old Broad-street, City, div. of 2s. 2d.; at 1, Sambrook-court, Basin-hall-street, March 18 and any subsequent Friday.

Tuesday, March 21.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

EVANS, WILLIAM, Piccadilly, linen draper.

BANKRUPTS.

ANDERSON, WILLIAM, Durham, draper, March 30, May 2: solicitors, Mr. Stevenson, Durham; and Mr. A. Burn, 14, Great Carter-lane, Doctors'-commons.

BALDWIN, ANDREW, Bulstrode-street, St. Marylebone, licensed victualler, March 27, May 1: solicitors, Messrs. Piercy and Co., Three Crown-court, Borough.

BOTILLIER, DAVID LE, Northumberland-place, Commercial-road, East, draper, March 29, May 2: solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry.

CHREES, BENJAMIN MCCLISH, and BOYD, JOHN, Bow-churchyard, silk manufacturer, March 31, May 9: solicitor, Mr. G. F. Hudson, 23, Bucklersbury.

GWILLIM, JOHN COLLE, Bishop's Frome, cattle dealer, April 8, May 2: solicitors, Mr. J. Gwillim, Hereford; Mr. J. Suckling, Birmingham.

HARLING, WILLIAM, Stobhouse, ship owner, April 3, May 4: solicitors, Mr. Perkins, 15, Regent-square, London; Messrs. Wilson and Faber, Stockton-upon-Tees; and Messrs. Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

HUXTABLE, JOHN, Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, silversmith, April 6, May 5: solicitor, Mr. Miller, Frome.

ISAACSON, JOSEPH ISAAC, Liverpool, merchant, March 31, April 20: solicitors, Messrs. Vincent and Co., Temple, London; and Messrs. Little and Co., Liverpool.

PICKUP, WILLIAM, Blackburn, brick maker, April 4, 25: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester; Messrs. Wilkinson and Kenyon, Blackburn; and Messrs. Wigglesworth and Co., Gray's-inn-square, London.

ROBERTS, EDWARD, Denbigh, currier, April 4, 28: solicitors, Messrs. Few and Co., Henrietta-street, London; and Messrs. Evans and Son, Liverpool.

SMITH, JAMES, Macclesfield, railway contractor, April 3 and 23: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester; Messrs. Codwell and Co., Hinkley; and Messrs. Lewis and Co., Ely-place, London.

SMITH, RICHARD, Baxenden, and SMITH, MILTON, Manchester, calico-printers, April 5 and 27: solicitors, Messrs. Clarke and Co., 20, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Mr. G. Whithead, Bury.

STRAKER, JOHN, Durham, brickmaker, March 30, May 4: solicitors, Mr. R. P. Philipson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and Messrs. Meggison and Co., 3, King's-road, Bedford-row, London.

WALBANK, JAMES, Stockport, currier, April 3, 25: solicitors, Messrs. Toulmin and Chester, 11, Staple-inn, London; and Mr. E. Oldham, Stockport.

WILSON, CHARLES CORBETT, Davenport, scrivener, March 30 May 4: solicitors, Messrs. A'Beckett and Co., Golden-square; and Mr. G. Pell, junr., Welford, Northampton.

WOOD, CHARLES THOMAS, Drury-lane, licensed victualler, March 29, May 2: solicitor, Mr. H. Martineau, 2, Raymond-buildings, Gray's-inn.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BARCLAY, ANDREW, and BARCLAY, JOHN, junr., Killmarnock, March 27, April 17.

ESPIE, JAMES, Stranraer, grocer, March 27, April 22.

MCQUEEN, JOHN, Alloa, grocer, March 27, April 17.

RUSSELL, THOMAS, Edinburgh, currier, March 28, April 20.

SYME, JAMES, and PRESTON, GEORGE MURRAY, Dunfermline, drapers, March 25, April 22.

TATHAM, STEPHEN, Glasgow, machine maker, March 24, April 14.

WILSON, JAMES, Glasgow, baker, March 25, April 15.

DIVIDENDS.

Solomon Riley, Pilkington, manufacturer, first div. of 9s. 3d.; at 7, Charlotte-street, Manchester, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday—Samuel Stott, Bacup, manufacturer, first div. of 2s. 5½d.; at 7, Charlotte-street, Manchester, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday—Thomas Evans, Denbigh, scrivener, a further div. of 2s. 5½d., and 3s. 1d. on new proofs; at 12, Cook-street, Liverpool, March 29, or any subsequent Wednesday—Matthew Johnson, Leeds, spindle maker, first div. of 9s. 4d.; at 4, Commercial-buildings, Leeds, on any Tuesday—William Tottle Watson, Manchester and Leeds, commission agent, first dividend of 9s. 6d.; at 45, George-street, Manchester, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday—Matthew Burton, Manchester, cotton spinner, first and final div. of 20s.; at 45, George-street, Manchester, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday—Arthur James, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, oil merchant, first div. of 2s.; at the Royal-arcade, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on any Saturday—John Russell, Leamington Priors, grocer, first div. of 1s. 8d.; at 7, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Friday—Jonathan Thompson, Tamworth, bookseller, first div. of 8s. 6½d.; at 13, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, any Thursday.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, March 20.

We had only a moderate supply of English Wheat to-day, and most of it affected by the continued wet weather. Good dry samples met a ready sale at rather higher prices, and all other sorts found more buyers at fully former rates. We had likewise a good demand for Foreign Wheat at last week's prices. Flour was fully as dear as on Monday last, but the sale limited. Fine Barley was scarce and 1s. dearer, and Malt readier sale. In Beans and Peas very little doing, and Peas 1s. to 2s. cheaper. Owing to the further good supply of Foreign Oats the trade was dull and fully 1s. per qr. lower. Linseed Cakes without alteration. Cloverseeds were offered on lower terms without inducing buyers. The current prices are under.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat, Red	44	10	51	Peas, Hog	34	10	36
Fine	46	10	54	Maple	35	10	38
White	41	10	50	Boilers	36	10	38
Fine	48	10	56	Beans, Ticks	28	10	30
Flour, per sk. (Town) ..	42	10	46	Pigeon	38	10	40
Barley	25	10	32	Harrow	32	10	35
Malt	31	10	33	Oats, Feed	18	10	21
Malt, Ordinary	50	10	54	Fine	24	10	26
Pale	52	10	57	Poland	23	10	24
Rye	30	10	32	Potato	24	10	26

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR MARCH 9.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat	49s.	11d.		Wheat	50s.	10d.	
Barley	30	8		Barley	30	11	
Oats	20	5		Oats	20	9	
Rye	30	5		Rye	31	11	
Beans	36	9		Beans	37	11	
Peas	41	8		Peas	42	6	

DUTIES.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Wheat	7	0		Rye	2	6	
Barley	2	6		Beans	2	6	
Oats	2	6		Peas	2	6	

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, March 20.

As the attendance of buyers was small, and the weather very unfavourable for slaughtering, the Beef trade was in a very inactive state, at a decline in the quotations paid on Monday last of 2d. per 8 lbs. Although a few of the prime Scots produced 4s. 6d., the more general top price of Beef did not exceed 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. The Mutton trade was heavy, at a fall in the currencies of 2d. per 8 lbs. The highest figure for the best old Downs in the wool was 5s. 4d. per 8 lbs. About 600 shorn Sheep were on offer at 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per 8 lbs. for Down qualities. There were a few Lambs in the market; but they sold at very irregular prices. Prime small Calves were in moderate request, at late rates. In other kinds of Veal, very little was doing. The Pork trade was in a very inactive state, at unaltered figures.

Price per stone of 8 lbs. (sinking the offal).
Beef 3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. | Veal | 4s. 0d. to 5s. 2d. || Mutton | 3 10 .. 5 6 | Pork | 4 0 .. 5 0 |

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday ..	909	2,950	195	290
Monday ..	3,309	11,850	116	300

NEWCASTLE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, March 20.

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Inferior Beef ..	3s.	0d. to 3s.	2d.	Inf. Mutton ..	3s.	8d. to 3s.	10d.
Middling do ..	3 2 .. 3 4			Mid. ditto ..	4 0 .. 4 4		
Prime large ..	3 6 .. 3 8			Prime ditto ..	4 6 .. 4 8		
Prime small ..	3 8 .. 3 10			Veal	4 0 .. 5 0		
Large Pork ..	3 8 .. 4 4			Small Pork ..	4 6 .. 5 0		

SEEDS, LONDON, Monday.—The Seed trade remained in much the same state as before. Clover was a little more inquired for; but to sell, it was necessary to accept low prices. Canaryseed was rather cheaper. Tares hung on hand; and in other articles there was hardly anything doing.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7½d. to 8d.; of household ditty, 6d. to 7d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Monday.

During last week there was a steady sale for Irish Butter, and prices ruled for Carlow at 90s. to 95s.; Belfast, 85s. to 94s.; Waterford, 80s. to 88s.; Cork, 91s. to 96s.; Limerick, 88s. to 90s. per cwt. Foreign sold slowly, and the turn cheaper; price of best quality, 112s. per cwt. For Bacon the demand slightly improved, and, accordingly, rather more business was done in Irish and American singed sides. Prices current, 68s. to 68s.; Irish, 58s. to 60s.; American and scalded, 53s. to 55s. per cwt. Bale and tierce middles, Irish, saleable—the former at from 58s. to 62s., the latter 51s. to 60s.; American bales, 51s. to 56s.; tierces, 50s. to 55s., as in quality and size. Hams in moderate demand, at 66s. to 72s. per cwt. Lard dull. Prices of Irish bladders, 74s. to 82s.; kegs, 60s. to 70s.; American bladders, 60s. to 76s.; kegs, 50s. to 60s. per cwt.

BUTTER, CHEESE, BACON, AND HAMS.

Butter, per cwt.	£.	s.	Cheese, per cwt.	£.	s.
Dorset	108	10 112	Double Gloucester ..	60	10 64
Curlew	91	10 98	Single	58	10 64
.....	86	10 88	Cheshire	56	10 70
Cork	88	10 91	Derby	62	10 68
Waterford	88	10 89	American	40	10 48
Limerick	86	10 90	Edam and Gouda ..	46	10 50
Foreign, prime—			Bacon, new	64	10 —
Friesland	106	10 —	Middle	66	10 60
Kiel	91	10 102	Hams, Irish	66	10 70
Fresh Butter, per doz.			Westmoreland ..	84	10 —
12s. 6d. to 13s. 0d.			York	84	10 —

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, March 18.—The market continues to be well supplied with vegetables and with most kinds of winter fruit. Pine-apples, however, are scarcer. The supply of foreign Grapes is well kept up. Pears and Apples are as plentiful as could be expected, considering the season. Of the former, specimens of *Beurré Bance*, *Easter Beurré*, and *Ne plus Meuris* may be bought at from 3s. to 4s. per dozen. Nuts are sufficient for the demand. Filberts fetch from 14s. to 20s. per 100 lbs. Oranges are abundant. Lemons are moderately plentiful. A few forced Strawberries have made their appearance. Of Vegetables, Cauliflowers, Broccoli, Greens, &c., are plentiful. Asparagus and Sea-kale may be obtained at last week's prices. A few French Beans fetch from 3s. to 4s. per 100. Carrots and Turnips are good in quality. Potatoes realize high prices.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday.—We have no new feature in our market, which remains inactive at last week's quotations.
Mid. and East Kents 60s. to 110s.
Weald of Kents 60s. to 70s.
Sussex Pockets 60s. to 65s.

WOOL, CITY, Monday.—The imports of Wool into London last week were 450 bales—of which 114 were from the Cape of Good Hope, 164 from Germany, 67 from Spain, and 60 from Calicut. The market for Wool is dull, as the accounts from the manufacturing districts are necessarily unsatisfactory. Leeds, March 17.—The operations in the foreign Wool trade indicate an unusual degree of caution on the part of the manufacturers generally. As might be expected, confidence has been partially impaired by the events of the past month; and sales, in consequence, have been chiefly limited to present wants. Prices, however, remain steady.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, Saturday.—The mercantile review of trade at Liverpool for the past week mentions a general depression of business, the Cotton Market especially, in which prices for the American staple had further declined $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb., and Surat $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. Egyptian and Brazilian were nominally quoted without change. The depression hanging over the market for some time past has not yet been removed. Transactions continue limited, though prices are sustained; sales are 3,000 bales to the trade.

TALLOW, LONDON, Monday.—This market continues very steady, at last week's improvement in the quotations. Our St. Petersburg letter, just at hand, states that the demand there is less active. About 3,000 casks had sold at 125s. money, for May and June; and 126s., with 10s. down, for August delivery. F.Y.C., on the spot, is 50s. 9d. to 51s. per cwt. Rough Fat is scarce, at 2s. 10d. per 8 lbs.

HIDES, LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; Calfskins, each, 4s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; Horse hides, 8s. 6d.; Polled Sheep, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; Kents and Half-breds, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 7d.; Downs, 2s. 8d. to 3s. 4d.; Shearings, 6d.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, March 17.—At per load of 36 trusses.
Meadow 50s. to 75s. | Clover 75s. to 94s.
Straw 23s. to 28s.

COAL EXCHANGE, March 18.
Hetton's, 16s. 6d.; Stewart's, 16s. 6d.; Braddyll's, 16s.; Wylam's, 14s.; Seymour Tees, 15s. The supply more than equal to the demand. The market still continues with a downward tendency. A great difficulty in effecting sales. Fresh arrivals, 2; left from last market, 116.—Total, 118.

THE COLONIAL MARKETS—Tuesday Evening.
SUGAR.—In the West India market only 140 hhds. have been sold, at about previous rates. The public sales comprised 12,200 bags of Mauritius, and 3,950 bags of Bengal. The former nearly all sold. Grocery sorts 1s. per cwt., and refined qualities at about 6d. decline. The Bengal went off at easier rates—low to good white, 38s. 6d. to 41s.; grainy white, 50s.; yellow, 40s. to 48s.; brown and gray, 32s. 6d. to 36d.
COFFEE.—1,000 bags at rather easier rates, viz., 33s. 6d. to 35s. for good ordinary to fine good ordinary.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

DISPENSARY for the CURE of DISEASES
of the SKIN, and all CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS,
Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square.

PHYSICIAN.
Thomas Innis, M.D., 33, Fitzroy-square,
Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; late Assistant-Surgeon in the Hon. East Company's Service.

It is a strange anomaly in the practice and progress of medical science in this country, that amongst all the benevolent and noble institutions established for the alleviation of human misery, there exists but one devoted to the cure or amelioration of Diseases of the Skin. It is a truth well known to the members of the faculty, that the ravages of these stubborn and enduring plagues of human life are more extensive than those of any other known disorder, there being little short of half a million of patients annually seeking relief. If we turn our eyes to France, we shall find the importance of this subject fully recognised, and the exertions of men of science nobly countenanced and encouraged by the national funds. Referring to the Hospital of Saint Louis—a magnificent institution devoted to the cure of skin diseases, a clever surgeon of the present day writes thus:—"Since the grave has closed over the labours of Bateman, the culture of Diseases of the Skin in this country, as a distinct branch of medical science, has slept. Not so in France; successor after successor, each equally eminent with his precursor, has glided through the moving panorama of life, from the days of Lorry to our own, till Saint Louis Hospital has become no less deserving of fame than Saint Louis, the tutelary shade of that magnificent establishment."

Surely here is an example to this country which we are bound jealously to emulate. The writer feels that the importance and necessity of a similar establishment in England can never be too much insisted upon. The peculiar nature of the diseases in question, and the almost insurmountable difficulty of acquiring accurate knowledge as to their modes of treatment, connected with the immense numbers of the suffering parties, render this desideratum actually the greatest under which these islands at present labour, in a sanitary point of view. These diseases are so numerous and multifarious in appearance and effect, and present such an infinite variety in diagnosis, that it is hopeless to expect any approach to specific remedies from the uncertain results of individual and scattered practice.

Notwithstanding the laudable endeavours of the various British authors who have written upon the subject—and the highest talent has not been wanting in this respect—still, of actual curative progress, little or nothing has been achieved; and this, plainly from the want of a theatre of action, where the operations and results of curative appliances might be ocularily tested, compared, and treasured up in the garner of experience. Hear Dr. Wilson on this subject:—"To become expert," says he, "in the diagnosis of these blemishes, and in curing such of them as are curable by our art, you must see them with your own eyes. Verbal descriptions of their changeable characters are of comparatively little service or interest. They are among the things that require to be 'oculis subjecta fidelibus.' Even pictured representations convey but an inadequate notion of the morbid appearances they are designed to portray. The lecturer on Skin Diseases should have patients before him to whose bodies he could point." The opinions of all practical men concur as to the soundness of these views. Writers may classify and sub-classify, and arrange under genera and species, as the late Dr. Willan and his pupil, Dr. Bateman, have done with consummate skill and unwearied industry; but wanting the means of reference to actual cases, and personal observation and comparison, their efforts are thrown away, and the ravages of disease unabated.

Deeply impressed with these considerations, and anxious to

afford an opportunity to all who may be desirous of co-operating with him in the advancement of this hitherto neglected department of medical science, Dr. Innis has opened the above-named dispensary at Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square.

Hoping to see the day when we shall not be behind our French neighbours in the means of investigation afforded by the establishment of an ample institution exclusively dedicated to the treatment of Cutaneous Diseases, Dr. Innis, in the meanwhile, earnestly invites all who feel interested in this important subject not to despise the "day of small things," but to unite with him at once in carrying out this infant institution, which has for its immediate and special object the testing of the principles upon which our foregone practice has been based with the actual operations of nature under disease.

Shortly will be published,
A TREATISE ON SKIN DISEASES, and all CUTANEOUS AFFECTIONS, arising from Functional Derangement of the Digestive Organs, degenerated state of the blood, or other causes. By THOMAS INNIS, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London; late Assistant Surgeon in the Hon. East India Company's service; Physician to the Dispensary for Diseases of the Skin, Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square. With numerous cases, showing the Author's successful treatment of cutaneous diseases of the most inveterate character, and suggesting treatment whereby many distressing and disfiguring blemishes of the skin may be removed, and all painful affections of the skin alleviated.

* Dr. INNIS may be consulted daily, until Two o'clock, at his residence, 33, Fitzroy-square.

"Dr. Innis's position as physician to a Dispensary for Skin Diseases, must render his opinion and advice peculiarly valuable in these distressing complaints."

COMFORT FOR TENDER FEET, AND A CERTAIN CURE FOR CORNS AND BUNIONS.

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND.
Patronised by the Royal Family, Nobility, &c.

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND, which gives Relief on the First Application. Paul's Every Man's Friend (Corn Plaster) is generally admitted to be the best emollient application for Corns and Bunions, and is worthy of a trial on the part of those who are afflicted with such unpleasant companions.

Testimonials have been received from upwards of one hundred Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest eminence, as well as from many Officers of both Army and Navy, and nearly one thousand private letters from the gentry in town and country, speaking in high terms of this valuable remedy.

Prepared by John Fox, in boxes, at 1s. $\frac{1}{4}$ d., or three small boxes in one for 2s. 9d.; and to be had, with full directions for use, of C. King, 34, Napier-street, Hoxton New Town, London, and all wholesale and retail Medicine Vendors in town and country. The genuine has the name of "John Fox" on the Government stamp. A 2s. 9d. box cures the most obdurate corns.

Ask for "Paul's Every Man's Friend."

Sold also by Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, 67, St. Paul's-churchyard; Butler and Harding, 4, Cheapside; Sutton, Bow-churchyard; Johnston, 68, Cornhill; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Willoughby and Co., 61, Bishopsgate-street Without; Owen, 52, Marchmont-street, Burton-crescent; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; and retail by all respectable Medicine Vendors in every town in England.

NO MORE MEDICINE.

CONSTIPATION and DYSPEPSIA (INDIGESTION) the main causes of Scrofula, Consumption, Billiousness, Nervousness, and so many other painful disorders, effectually REMOVED from the system, by a permanent restoration of the digestive functions to their primitive vigour, without purging, inconvenience, or pain.—Published by Dr. Barry and Co., 8, Bury-court, St. Mary-axe, London; and John Hoffs, M.D., 25, Place Vendôme, Paris. Price 6d., or 8d. post free; court copy, 2s. post free; popular treatise, entitled,

THE NATURAL REGENERATOR of the DIGESTIVE ORGANS (the stomach and intestines), without pills, purgatives, or medicines of any kind, by a simple, natural, agreeable, and infallible means, effecting the permanent removal of Dyspepsia and Constipation, the two main causes of Scrofula, Consumption, and many other painful disorders, without inconvenience, purging, or pain; accompanied with a monthly report of grateful acknowledgments from parties of the highest respectability in the medical, legal, clerical, and military professions, who have availed themselves of this delicious curative means, called DU BARRY and Co.'s REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD, in 4lb. canisters at 11s., 10lb. at 21s., suitably packed for all climates. Eaten like gruel, it speedily removes the most inveterate functional disorders, restores health, vigour, and regularity to the digestive organs (the stomach and intestines), and enables these to free the system from all the painful symptoms their impaired condition has engendered, such as dyspepsia (bad digestion), nervousness, billiousness, liver complaint, spleen, languor, wasting away, scrofula, &c., &c. It is a therapeutic agent of gentle, but steady and irresistible power; boiled, like gruel, in water, clear beef tea, mutton or veal broth, it suits delicate children of three months and upwards, as well as the most aged and infirm persons, being much more easily digested than arrow-root. Its healing, renovating, and strengthening virtues, accomplish what no other remedy will effect. This excellent food is in daily use by eminent physicians, lawyers, clergymen, and other persons of distinction; a copy of their recommendation and practical appreciation, in their own cases, of its highly curative, nutritive, restorative, and strengthening virtues, accompanies each canister.

Extract from last Report.

Letter from Mr. Sergeant-at-Law Wilkins.

"8, King's Bench-walk, Temple, London, Dec. 21, 1847.
"My dear Sir,—I have taken the 'Arabica Revalenta' for the last six weeks twice a day, and have great pleasure in bearing witness to its efficacy. For years before I had recourse to this excellent food, I had been tormented, more or less, by dyspepsia. I am now enjoying perfect digestion, and all the consequent advantages."

"I am, my dear Sir, your truly obliged friend,
"A Monsieur Du Barry. CHARLES WILKINS, S.L."
"Frenchay Rectory, near Bristol, Dec. 9, 1847.
"Next to God, I owe you a great deal of gratitude for the prospect of health now opened before me."

"(Rev.) THOMAS MINSTER.
[Now at St. Saviour's Vicarage, Leeds.]

"3, Sydney-terrace, Reading, Dec. 3, 1847.
"I can with confidence recommend it, and shall have much pleasure in so doing whenever an opportunity offers."

"JAMES SHORLAND, late Surgeon 96th Reg."

"21, Broad-street, Golden-square, Nov. 20, 1847.
"(Details of nineteen years' agony and three weeks' treatment.)—I humbly and sincerely thank God, and yourselves as His instruments, &c."

"Isabella GRELLENER."
"11, Victoria-terrace, Salford, Manchester, Jan. 2, 1847.
"The benefits I have derived therefrom in so short a space of time have exceeded my most sanguine expectations, &c."

"JOHN MACKAY."

"Winslow, Bucks, Jan. 22, 1848.
"Dear Sir,—In addition to what I communicated to you some time ago, I have only to add, that I partake of your emollient, healing, nutritive, and curative aliment twice a day with great advantage. I am sure to any one attending to your dietetic rules it must prove most beneficial, not only as a curative means of restoring him to health and strength, but also a very simple, though delicious luxury in the way of diet, when taken in good beef tea or gravy soup. I have found it to be a simple, though very efficacious and pleasant food, doing good to my own and others' functional disorders. Yours, dear Sir, very truly,
"A Mons. Du Barry."

Discovered and imported by DU BARRY and Co., 8, Bury-court, St. Mary-axe, London. Agents in London:—Hedges and Butler, 155, Regent-street; Abbiss, 60, Gracechurch-street; Moore, 109, Strand. Manchester: J. W. Hopkins, 15, Princess-street. Paris: John Hoffs, M.D., 25, Place Vendôme.

GALVANISM.—ANOTHER REMARKABLE CURE OF A PARALYTIC PATIENT, performed by means of HALSE'S GALVANIC APPARATUS.

GALVANISM.—PARALYSIS.—The following is well worthy the attention of medical men (particularly those who scoff at galvanism) and paralytic invalids; it is another of those astonishing cures made by Mr. Halse. Mr. Blackwell, of Cottage-road, Pimlico, a retired builder, is the gentleman on whom this extraordinary cure was performed, and who has kindly allowed Mr. Halse to publish his case for the benefit of the public at large, an example worthy the imitation of thousands of others who have also been restored to the blessings of health by the all but miraculous powers of galvanism, when applied with an efficient apparatus. The case will scarcely be credited by a great number of readers. About three months since, Mr. Blackwell was taken from his carriage in the arms of his servant, and carried into one of Mr. Halse's operating-rooms. His limbs were so powerless that he had not the least strength in them, and was as helpless as a baby. The most eminent medical men in London had been in attendance on him, but without the least success, for he continued daily to get worse. An old patient of Mr. Halse's, who had been similarly afflicted, recommended galvanism to him, informing him of the wonderful effects it had had upon himself. He now decided on trying this remedy, and purchased from Mr. Halse one of his ten guinea apparatuses. On Saturday Mr. Halse was delighted to see his patient descend from his carriage and walk into his house, without the least assistance, informing him that he could now walk several miles without any help whatever. Ye revilers of Galvanism! what say ye to this?

GALVANISM.—Invalids are solicited to send to Mr. W. H. Halse, of 44, Finsbury-circus, Finsbury-square, London, for his Pamphlet on Medical Galvanism, which will be forwarded free on receipt of two postage-stamps. They will be astonished at its contents. In it will be found the particulars of cures in cases of asthma, rheumatism, sciatica, tic douloureux, paralysis, spinal complaints, headache, deficiency of nervous energy, liver complaints, general debility, indigestion, stiff joints, all sorts of nervous disorders, &c. Mr. Halse's method of applying the galvanic fluid is quite free from all unpleasant sensation; in fact, it is rather pleasurable than otherwise, and many ladies are exceedingly fond of it. It quickly causes the patient to do without medicine. Terms, one guinea per week. The above Pamphlet contains his Letters on Medical Galvanism.

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—(From the *Westonian* of March 10.)—"That Mr. Halse stands high as a medical galvanist, and that he is generally considered as the head of his profession, are facts which we have long known; but we did not know, until very recently, that he had brought the galvanic apparatus to such a high state of perfection that an invalid may galvanize himself with the most perfect safety. We happen to know something of galvanism ourselves, and we can truly say that his apparatus is far superior to anything of the kind we ever beheld. To those of our invalid friends, therefore, who may feel desirous of testing the remedial powers of galvanism, we say, apply at once to the fountain-head. To secure beneficial results, it is necessary, as we can from experience assert, to be galvanised by an apparatus constructed on the best principles; for although the sensation experienced from the small machines of the common construction during the operation is very similar to that experienced by Mr. Halse's machines, yet the effects afterwards produced are vastly different, the one producing a feeling of exhaustion, and the other a feeling of renewed vigour. Mr. Halse particularly recommends galvanism for the restoration of muscular power in any part of the body which may be deficient of it."

HALSE'S PORTABLE GALVANIC APPARATUS.—The following is extracted from the *Magazine of Science* for April:—"We are continually in receipt of letters from medical men, inquiring the best form of galvanic apparatus for medical purposes, the essential requisites being constancy of action, and to be always ready for use at a moment's notice. To those medical friends we reply, write to Mr. Halse, and order one of his Portable Galvanic Apparatus, and you may take our word for it, you will find them all that you can desire. His battery is constructed of zinc and silver plates, and he has so arranged his regulating apparatus, that the practitioner may apply just what power he may think proper. It is the most perfect thing we ever beheld; and we do not see how it is possible, for medical purposes, to improve upon it. It is well known that quantity of fluid is the great desideratum in medical galvanism. Now, in the small machines which are usually sold, it is very evident to any one who knows anything of the principles of galvanism, that the quantity of fluid which circulates through the body of the patient is next to nothing (although the shock may be very powerful); for the human body is an imperfect conductor; and it requires a series of pairs of plates to force the current through an imperfect conductor. In Mr. Halse's apparatus there are both quantity and intensity brought into action; and yet his machine is constructed in so beautiful a manner, that even an infant may be galvanised with it without the least unpleasantness. As men of science, we conscientiously recommend Halse's Portable Galvanic Apparatus in preference to all others."

EPILEPTIC FITS.

WONDERFUL DISCOVERY in MEDICINE,
by which upwards of 900 PATIENTS have been effectually CURED OF EPILEPSY within the last year. M. LE MESURIER and CO. are pre-eminent for the cure of Epilepsy in every stage of the disease, and effectually restore their patients to perfect health. Testimonials may be seen, and satisfactory personal references are permitted. Consulting hours from Ten to One o'clock. To extend to suffering humanity the great benefits resulting from their discovery M. Le Mesurier and Co. make no charge for Consultation, and written applications from any part of the world will be answered free
3, BULSTRODE-STREET, CAVENTISH-SQUARE, LONDON.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF ROYALTY, AND THE AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—A Certain Remedy for Disorders of the Pulmonary Organs. In Difficulty of Breathing, in Redundancy of Phlegm, in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.
Prepared and sold in boxes, 1s. $\frac{1}{4}$ d., and tins, 9s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London. Sold retail by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the Kingdom.

RECENT TESTIMONIALS.

DEAR SIR,—Having been for a considerable time during the winter afflicted with a violent cough, particularly at lying down in bed, which continued for several hours incessantly; and after trying many medicines without the slightest effect, I was induced to try your lozenges; and by taking about half a box of them in less than twenty-four hours, the cough entirely left me, and I have been perfectly free from it ever since.

I am, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,
JAMES ELLIS.
9, Claremont-terrace, Pentonville,
Feb. 17, 1845. (Late Proprietor of the Chapter Coffee-house, St. Paul's).

RESTORATION OF VOICE BY KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

SIR,—I have great pleasure in informing you of the great good your excellent Cough Lozenges have done me. In December, 1845, I caught a severe cold from riding two or three miles one very wet night, which settled in my lungs, and quite took away my voice, so that I could not speak above a whisper from that time until December last. I tried all kinds of medicines, but they were of no avail. I was then advised to try your lozenges, which I did only to please my friends; but before I had finished a 2s. 9d. tin, my voice, to my great joy, came back as strong as ever.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
JAMES MARTIN.

Glasgow, Jan. 12th, 1847.
Thomas Keating, Esq.
To attendants on public worship, KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are particularly recommended, more especially at this season of the year, when the extreme prevalence of Coughs and Colds is a source of constant annoyance.

SILVER AND ELECTRO PLATE SUPERSEDED BY RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK'S CHEMICALLY PURIFIED NICKEL SILVER.

A GOOD substitute for SILVER has long been sought after, and numerous have been the attempts to produce a perfect metal that will retain its colour when in use. How fruitless the attempts have been the public know too well from the fact that all their purchases have, after a few days' wear, exhibited a colour little better than brass. The very severe tests that have been applied to our metal, (which in all cases it has withstood,) at once places it pre-eminent above all others, and from its silver-like appearance, its intrinsic and valuable properties, gives us confidence in asserting that it is, and must remain, the ONLY PURE AND PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

	Fiddle Patterns.	Strongest Three: King's and Victoria Pattern.
Table Spoons & Forks, per dozen	12s. and 15s.	19s. 28s. 30s.
Dessert do. and do.	10s. and 13s.	16s. 21s. 25s.
Tea ditto	5s. and 6s.	8s. 11s. 12s.

Crust Frames with rich Cut Glasses, from 2s. Table Candlesticks, 12s. per pair.

Tea Sets, and every article for the Table, at proportionate prices. R. and J. S. beg to caution the public against several spurious imitations of their articles, which are daily offered to the public as Albata British Plate. The genuine are to be had only at their establishment, 336, STRAND, opposite Somerset House, where no inferior goods are kept.

FENDERS, FIRE IRONS, &c.

RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK are now offering the most extensive and elegant assortment of Fenders in London, embracing the newest designs, at prices under 30 per cent. under any other house. Ornamental Iron Fenders, 3 feet long, 4s. 6d.; 3 feet 6 inches, 5s. 3d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto, bronzed, from 6s.; Bed-room Fenders, from 2s. 6d.; rich Scroll Fenders, with Steel Spear, any size, from 10s. Chamber Fire Irons, 1s. 9d. per set; Parlour ditto, 3s. 6d.; superior ditto, with cut head and bright brass, from 6s. 6d.; new patterns, with bronzed head, 11s.; ditto, with ornate and China heads, at proportionate prices.

BALANCE IVORY TABLE KNIVES, 10s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 9s.; carvers, 3s. 6d. per pair. White Bone Table Knives, 6s.; Dessert ditto, 4s.; Carvers, 2s. per pair. Superior Kitchen Table Knives and Forks, from 6s. 6d. per dozen. Table Knives, with pure Nickel Silver, 22s. per dozen; Dessert ditto, 18s.; Carvers, 6s. 6d. per pair, all marked RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, and warranted.

A SET OF THREE FULL-SIZED TEA TRAYS, 6s. 6d.; superior Japan Gothic ditto, 13s. 6d.; Gothic paper ditto, 33s. Patent Dish Covers, set of six for 17s. Roasting Jack, complete, 7s. 6d.; Brass ditto, 9s. 6d. Coal Scuttles, from 1s. 6d.; and every description of Furnishing Ironmongery 30 per cent. under any other house.

SHOWER BATHS, WITH CURTAINS, 9s. RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, in submitting the above prices, beg it to be understood, it is for articles of the best quality only.

The extensive patronage their establishment has received during a period of nearly thirty years (1818), will be some proof the public have not been deceived; but as a further guarantee, they will continue to exchange any article not approved of, or return the money, it being their intention to sell only such articles as will do them credit, and give satisfaction by their durability.

RICHARD AND JOHN SLACK, 336, Strand, opposite Somerset House.

Their Illustrated Catalogue may be had gratis, or sent to any part post free.

ESTABLISHED 1818.

The Money returned for every Article not approved of.

THE PLATED SEAMLESS TEA-POTS cannot be distinguished from silver, or leak, or lose their shape; while from the peculiarity of the process of making (just patented), their prices are about one-half of any other sort. Portland, 23s.; Oval plain, 23s.; Round plain, 25s.; Round engraved, 30s.; Antique (superior even to silver itself in delicacy of finish), 40s.; in Britannia metal, Oval, 7s. 6d.; Round, 8s. 6d.; Portland, 7s. 6d. each.—Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE IRONS.—

THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF STOVES, KITCHEN RANGES, and FENDERS, as well as General Ironmongery, in the world, is now on sale at WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) extensive warehouses. Bright steel fenders, 4 feet, from 30s. each; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from 60s.; rich bronzed scroll ditto, with steel bar, 10s. 6d.; iron fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto bronzed, and fitted with standards, 3 feet, 9s.; 4 feet, 11s.; wrought iron kitchen fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; bright register stoves, with bronzed ornaments, and two sets of bars, from 80s.; ditto ditto, with or-molu ornaments, from 26 6s.; black dining-room register stoves, 2 feet, 18s.; 3 feet, 27s.; bed-room register stoves, 2 feet, 16s.; 3 feet, 24s. Fire-irons for chambers, 1s. 9d. per set; handsome ditto, with cut heads, 6s. 6d.; newest pattern, with elegant bronzed heads, 11s. A variety of fire-irons, with or-molu and richly cut heads, at proportionate prices. Any article in the furnishing ironmongery, 30 per cent. under any other house. The money returned for every article not approved of. Detailed catalogues with engravings, sent (per post) free.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S (late RIPPON and BURTON'S) stock of general furnishing ironmongery is literally the largest in the world, and as no language can be employed to give a correct idea of its variety and extent, purchasers are invited to call and inspect it—39, Oxford-street (corner of Newman-street). Established in Wells-street, 1820.

RESTORATION OF THE HAIR.—

To Messrs. A. Rowland and Sons, 20, Hatton-garden, London. Linton, Cambridgeshire, Oct. 25, 1847.

Gentlemen.—A striking instance of the efficacy of your Macassar Oil in the restoration of the hair has just come under my notice. The person alluded to is a young man named Haylock, of Ashdon, near this place, whose entire head of hair came off by some unaccountable means. He purchased of me several different popular preparations, which he regularly and faithfully used, but without effecting the least apparent change. At last I advised him to try a bottle of your Macassar Oil; and, on Friday last, he communicated to me the pleasing intelligence of the reappearance of a thick head of hair. You can make what use you please of this, and refer inquirers to

Yours respectfully, J. SERGEANT, Bookseller, &c.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL is a de-

lightfully fragrant and transparent preparation for the hair, and as an invigorator and purifier is beyond all precedent. Weakness, premature greyness, and tendency to fall off, are also entirely prevented by its regular application. In dressing the hair, nothing can equal the effect of Rowland's Macassar Oil, on either natural or artificial hair, rendering it so admirably soft that it will lie in any direction, producing beautifully flowing curls, and, by the transcendent lustre it imparts, rendering the head-dress truly enchanting.

Price 3s. 6d.—7s.—Family bottles (equal to four small), 10s. 6d., and double that size, 21s. per bottle.

Each bottle of their genuine article has the words

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL,

Engraved in two lines on the wrapper; and on the back of the wrapper nearly 1,500 times, containing 29,038 letters.

Sold by them and by all Chemists and Perfumers.

* Beware of spurious "Macassar Oils." Some are offered under the implied sanction of Royalty, and the Government Departments, and similar attempts at deception.

MOURNING—COURT, FAMILY, and COMPLIMENTARY.—The PROPRIETOR of the LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE

Begs respectfully to remind Families whose bereavements compel them to adopt Mourning attire, that every article (of the very best description) requisite for a complete outfit of Mourning, may be had at his Establishment at a moment's notice. Widows' and Family Mourning is always kept made up, and a note descriptive of the Mourning required will insure everything necessary for the occasion being sent immediately, either in town or into country, and on the most reasonable terms. It is also to be observed that as both Milliners and Dressmakers are constantly employed in making up articles in crape (at all times difficult), superiority in mode and unusual neatness may be relied on.

MANTLES FOR THE SEASON,

OF FIRST-RATE STYLE AND EXCELLENCE, IN EVERY FASHIONABLE MATERIAL, Suited for the Carriage, Promenade, Opera, or Travelling. The designs mostly the exclusive property of this Establishment. At the most reasonable prices.

THE MILLINERY DEPARTMENT

Is now replete with all the New Modes for the present and approaching Season, in BONNETS, DRESS and MOURNING CAPS, HEAD DRESSES, FLOWERS, EVENING DRESSES, and every Novelty of Deep and Complimentary Mourning Costume.

THE LONDON GENERAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,

Nos. 247, 249, 251, REGENT-STREET.

W. C. JAY, Proprietor.

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEES, OF SURPASSING STRENGTH AND RICHNESS OF FLAVOUR.

THE object of JOHN CASSELL in appointing Agents in every locality throughout the United Kingdom is, to afford every facility to Families for the purchase of Coffees of truly rich and mellow-flavoured mountain growths; and this not at exorbitant rates, but at prices ordinarily paid for very inferior descriptions. The enormous demand already created, demonstrates that the inhabitants of those towns into which these delicious coffees have been introduced duly appreciate the effort which JOHN CASSELL has made to supply an article of the character above stated, and which enters so largely into the consumption of every Family.

The following are the Prices at which any quantity, from two ounces to one pound, may be obtained:—

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE, No. 1, an excel-

lent article 1s. 4d.

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE, No. 2, cannot

fail to give great satisfaction, being a combination of the choicest growths of Jamaica,

possessing richness, strength, and flavour .. 1s. 8d.

JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE, No. 3, to every

connoisseur in Coffee this will prove a treat,

combining the finest mountain growths of

both Jamaica and Turkey 2s. 0d.

OBSERVE—Every packet of JOHN CASSELL'S Coffee bears his signature, without which none is genuine.

"GOOD COFFEE!" WHAT IS IT?

It is not that bitter, stringent article which grows on the wilds of Ceylon; nor is it merely an article of a light, pleasant flavour, but destitute of strength. It is a combination of the world's mountain growth, and possesses the following qualities: strong but mellow, having a rich aromatic fragrance and flavour. To have really good Coffee, the best mountain growths must be selected, and judiciously combined, by an experienced hand; they must be roasted upon scientific principles, so that the vegetable oil may not be injured, but the berry retain those properties which render a good cup of coffee so pleasant to the palate, and so exhilarating to the nervous system. It is because they possess these qualities in the highest degree, that JOHN CASSELL'S Coffees are in such great repute. Let all who wish to obtain such articles in perfection purchase these Coffees, and their constant patronage will be secured.

THE AGENCY FOR JOHN CASSELL'S COFFEE.

It is the intention of JOHN CASSELL to appoint TWO THOUSAND AGENTS throughout the United Kingdom, and by that means to keep up a constant supply of fresh roasted and fresh ground Coffee, in packets containing from two ounces to one pound each, securely packed in lead, so as effectually to preserve their strength and aroma. Persons desirous of securing this valuable agency are requested to make immediate application. JOHN CASSELL is sorry that disappointment has been experienced in numerous instances, by persons who have not succeeded in obtaining the Agency. This has arisen from the circumstance of numerous applications coming from the same town or locality; and it is a principle with JOHN CASSELL not to appoint a second Agent who may, in the least degree, interfere with the interests of the first.

All applications to be addressed to JOHN CASSELL, Abchurch-lane, London.

NO. 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY.—

The system of business adopted at this establishment obviates a difficulty to which families have long been subjected, that of not being able to obtain raw and refined sugar at the same house where they purchase their TEA. Our supplying these important articles and colonial produce, combined with the excellence of our TEAS and COFFEES, has obtained for us a large and increasing trade, a satisfactory proof that we were right in supposing that there was ample room for an establishment based on this principle, not of a selling few, but every article on a small per centage on import prices. Terms, cash on delivery of goods. Orders from the country, if accompanied with a reference in London, a remittance on receipt of the goods will be sufficient.

BLACK TEA.			GREEN TEA.		
	Per lb.	s. d. s. d.		Per lb.	s. d. s. d.
Good sound Congou	2 10 to 3 0		Good Twankay to Hyson kind	3 2 to 3 4	
Strong useful Congou	3 2		Genuine Hyson	3 6	
Fine Congou Pekoe, Souongou	3 6		Fine Hyson, recommended	3 8	
Flavour	3 6		Very fine Hyson	4 8	
Finest Congou imported	4 0		Superfine Hyson	5 0	
COFFEE.			Strong Gunpowder	4 0 to 4 4	
Common Coffee	0 8 to 0 10		Fine Gunpowder	4 8	
Finest Ceylon	0 11		SPICES.		
Plantation ditto	1 1 to 1 3		Finest Mace	6 9	
Finest Costa Rica	1 4		Second quality, good	5 6 to 6 0	
Choice old Mocha; this is the finest imported	1 6		Batavia Nutmegs	5 4	
MISCELLANEOUS.			Ditto, finest picked	6 9	
Finest Pearl Sago	0 2 1/2 per lb		Amboyna Cloves	1 4 to 2 0	
Tapioca, good	0 5		Benecoolen, finest	2 9	
Best Tapioca	0 6		Finest Cinnamon	4 9	
Finest West India Arrowroot	0 10		Second quality	4 6	
Best Mustard, in tin foil	1 4		Genuine mixed spice	3 6	
Best Carolina Rice	0 4		Black heavy pepper	0 11	
Isinglass, best picked	14 6		Finest White Pepper	1 4	
Best Brown Candy	0 10 1/2		Long	1 2	

The carts and vans of this establishment punctually deliver all goods as under, the orders for which families are respectfully requested to send at least one day previous to delivery. To the west-end, Islington, the Borough, the whole of London, and the city daily.

To Bayswater and Kensington every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. To Chelsea and Brompton every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

To the east-end of London, Wapping, Shadwell, Poplar, Blackwall, Bow, and Stratford, every Thursday. To the suburbs one day each week.

PHILLIPS and Co., 8, King William-street, City, corner of Abchurch-lane, facing the London Life Association.—No. 8.

SNOWDEN'S PATENT PURIFIED and DRESSED COFFEE, rendered more wholesome for use.

A very important improvement in the article of Coffee having been discovered by us, for which discovery we have obtained her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, we submit the principle to your attention.

The process of dressing we cannot urge too strongly on your notice, as this is one of the most important parts of our invention. After the Coffee is purified and roasted, it passes into a Cracking or Crushing Apparatus; from thence it goes into our Patent Dressing Machine, by which means we entirely remove from the internal part of the Coffee all that Fibre, or Pith, encircling the heart of the Berry, which may be easily seen by breaking it between the finger and thumb and examining it. This Fibre, or Pith, has always, up to the time of our Patent, been ground up with the Coffee, and, when ground, being in such fine particles, and of a light, floating tendency, is the great cause of the difficulty of fining or clarifying it.

We have submitted our Coffee to some of the most eminent Analytical Chemists of the Metropolis, who assert that we remove the great obstacle of fining or clarifying, and that what we do remove is injurious, more particularly to persons with weak stomachs.

The following testimonial is from Dr. Ure, the celebrated Professor of Chemistry:—

"24, Bloomsbury-square, London, Nov. 27th, 1847.

"Having carefully examined the Patent of Mr. Robert Snowden, for improvements in treating and dressing Coffee, I have much pleasure in expressing my highest approbation of it. He, first of all, purifies the berry, then roasts it slightly, so as to detach the coarse, fibrous pellicles from its surface, also the chaffy pith of the centre, commonly called the wing, a light, tough fibre, which, after grinding, is apt to pass through the filter, and cannot be separated by fining, but, when swallowed, creates irritation of the gullet and stomach. The removal of this pith is a most valuable part of this invention, and, joined to his other improvements, will enable Mr. Snowden to produce from average berries a wholesomer and more delicious Coffee than any now in the market.

"ANDREW URE, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

"Professor of Chemistry, and Analytical Chemist."

This Coffee may be had in 3lb., 6lb., and 12lb. canisters in its dressed state, deprived of all its internal fibre, ready for grinding, or already ground for use, by addressing to the Patentees, R. SNOWDEN AND COMPANY, Tea, Coffee, and Cocoa-dealers, City-road and East-road, London.

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Reclining chairs, in leather, spring stuffed	2	0	0 ..	3	5	0
Mahogany lounging chairs, carved throughout, spring stuffed, in morocco, on patent castors	3	4	0 ..	3	10	0
Couches, with loose squabs, all hair	2	15	0 ..	3	15	0
Mahogany loo tables, French polished	2	11	0 ..	2	14	0
Rosewood ditto, on pillars	3	10	0 ..	4	8	0
Rosewood chiffoniers, with carved backs and marble tops, 3 ft., carved ..	3	5	0 ..	3	10	0
4 ft. carved mahogany sideboard, with drawers and four doors, cellarets and trays, complete, French polished	4	12	0 ..	5	15	0
Mahogany dining tables, with sliding frames, loose leaves, and castors	3	12	6 ..	5	5	6
Mahogany bedsteads, with cornices or poles, sacking or lath bottoms, polished ..	4	0	0 ..	4	15	0
superior ditto, massive pillars, carved, double screwed, and bracketed round ..	6	6	0 ..	7	15	6
3-feet 6-inch elliptic wash-stands, marble tops	2	12	6 ..	3	12	6
Dressing tables, en suite	2	5	0 ..	2	11	0
Winged wardrobe, with drawers in centres	8	10	0 ..	15	0	0
3 ft. mahogany or japanned chest of drawers	2	5	0 ..	2	15	0
Chamber chairs, with cane or willow seats ..	0	3	0 ..	0	5	0
Chimney glasses, in gilt frames, 30 by 18 to 40 by 24 in.	2	1	0 ..	3	17	0
Alva or Wool Mattress, 4 ft. 6 in.	0	16	6 ..	0	17	6

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